SYRIA - JORDAN

RTT32313I-----
a pbx
^BC-Jordan-Syria, 1st Ld-Writethru<
^Precede AMMAN<
^Hussein In Syria For Talks With Assad<
^Eds: UPDATES with Hussein's arrival in Damascus.<

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP) _ King Hussein of Jordan arrived Sunday to offer belated condolences to President Hafez Assad on the death of his son and to discuss the latest developments in the Middle East peace process.

Hussein, accompanied by senior aides, including Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali, was received by Assad at the airport and the two drove straight to the Peoples' Palace for talks.

Attending the meeting were Vice President Abdel-Khalim Khaddam, Foreign Minister Farouk al-Sharaa and Prime Minister Mahmoud el-Zouebi, and Majali, Syria's state-run news agency SANA reported.

''His majesty wanted to personally pay belated condolences for the death of Mr. Assad's son,'' a Jordanian official said. ''King Hussein was not in the region when the accident occurred.''

Hussein was meeting with President Clinton in Washington on Jan. 21 when Basil Assad, 31, died in a car crash in Syria.

Hussein is expected to brief Assad on the outcome of his talks with Clinton.

Jordan and Syria, along with Lebanon and the Palestinians, are engaged in peace negotiations with Israel which began in October 1991.

Syria's talks with Israel are bogged down over Syria's demand Israel withdraw from the strategic Golan Heights, which the Jewish state seized in the 1967 Middle East war, and Israel's demand that Syria spell out its vision of total peace before undertaking any such commitment.

Jordan and Israel signed an agenda outlining the principles of a peace accord one day after Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization signed a peace accord in Washington Sept. 13.

However, Hussein has assured Assad his country will not sign a separate peace agreement without Syria reaching a similar accord with Israel.

Arab-Israeli talks, which resumed Jan. 24 after a four-month break, were adjourned on Thursday until Feb. 15. The U.S. State Department said this was after consultation with the parties.
^(jah-jjh-syr-ds)<

RR0188
U I NCB023 01 WAT 888
LEAD SYRIA-JORDAN
PRECEDE DAMASCUS
NO PICKUP
EDS: SHARAA ARRIVES WITH LETTER TO KING FROM SYRIAN PRESIDENT
AMMAN, JORDAN (AP) - SYRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER FAROUK AL-SHARAA ARRIVED SUNDAY TO BRIEF JORDANIAN OFFICIALS ON SYRIAS MEDIATION ROLE TO CONTAIN HOSTILITIES IN THE GULF.

SYRIAN SOURCES ALSO SAID THAT SHARAA WILL ALSO DISCUSS MEANS AND WAYS OF SUPPORTING PALESTINIANS IN THE ISRAELI-OCCUPIED WEST BANK AND GAZA STRIP, WHERE 27 ARABS WERE KILLED BY ISRAELI GUNFIRE DURING MONTH-LONG RIOTING.

SHARAA WAS CARRYING A LETTER FROM PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD TO KING HUSSEIN OF JORDAN, SAID THE OFFICIAL JORDAN NEWS AGENCY, WHICH REPORTED SHARAAS ARRIVAL. IT DID NOT DISCLOSE CONTENTS OF THE LETTER.

SHARAA IS SCHEDULED TO MEET THE KING LATER IN THE DAY BEFORE HE RETURNS HOME.

THE NEWS AGENCY SAID THE SYRIAN OFFICIAL WILL ALSO DISCUSS DURING HIS SHORT WORKING VISIT WITH FOREIGN MINISTER TAHER MASRI THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN THE REGION.

THE SYRIAN SOURCES, WHO SPOKE IN DAMASCUS AS SHARAA LEFT FOR AMMAN, SAID RECENT TENSION BETWEEN IRAN AND IRAQ WILL NOT STOP ASSADS GOVERNMENT FROM CONTINUING ITS MEDIATION EFFORTS. THE SOURCES SPOKE ON CONDITION OF ANONYMITY.

IRAQ REPORTED ON FRIDAY ITS WARPLANES BOMBED A REFINERY IN THE IRANIAN CITY OF TABRIZ, BREAKING A WEEK-LONG LULL IN ATTACKS. IRANIAN GUNNERS RETALIATED BY SHELLING IRAQS SOUTHERN PORT OF BASRA OVER THE WEEKEND, RENEWING FEARS OF A MILITARY ESCALATION.

MORE

A0189U I NCB025 01 WAT 888

AMMAN - LEAD SYRIA-JORDAN 2

SHARARS BRIEFING OF JORDANIAN LEADERS WAS ALSO TO FOCUS ON THE MEDIATION AND THE RESULTS OF THE TOUR HE MADE WITH VICE PRESIDENT ABDUL-HALIM.KHADDAM TO GULF ARAB CAPITALS LAST WEEK, SAID THE SYRIAN SOURCES.

JORDAN IN NOVEMBER HOSTED THE LAST ARAB SUMMIT CONFERENCE, AND MAINTAINS GOOD RELATIONS WITH IRAQ, SYRIAS ARAB RIVAL.

SHARAA, WHOSE COUNTRY IS PERSIAN IRANS ARAB ALLY, HAS ALSO SHUTTLED BETWEEN SAUDI ARABIA AND IRAN, IN WHAT AMOUNTED TO A MEDIATION EFFORT TO EASE TENSION BETWEEN TEHRAN AND ARAB GULF STATES, WHOSE SHIPPING HAS BEEN UNDER INCREASING ATTACK FROM THE IRANIANS.

END

12436 10 01 88

RR0162
U I NCB016 01 MAT 888
SYRIA-JORDAN
MINISTER VISITS AMMAN, SOURCES SAY, MEDIATION TO CONTINUE
DAMASCUS, SYRIA (AP) - FOREIGN MINISTER FAROUK AL-SHARAA LEFT FOR AMMAN SUNDAY TO BRIEF JORDANIAN OFFICIALS ON SYRIAS MEDIATION ROLE TO CONTAIN HOSTILITIES IN THE GULF.

SYRIAN SOURCES, SPEAKING ON CONDITION OF ANONYMITY, SAID RECENT TENSION BETWEEN IRAN AND IRAQ WILL NOT STOP DAMASCUS FROM CONTINUING ITS MEDIATION EFFORTS.

IRAQI REPORTED ON FRIDAY ITS WARPLANES BOMBED A REFINERY IN THE IRANIAN CITY OF TABRIZ, BREAKING A WEEK-LONG LULL IN ATTACKS. IRANIAN GUNNERS RETALIATED BY SHELLING IRAQS SOUTHERN PORT OF BASRA OVER THE WEEKEND, RENEWING FEARS OF A MILITARY ESCALATION.

SHARAAS SHORT WORKING VISIT IS TO BRIEF JORDANIAN OFFICIALS ON THE OUTCOME OF THE SYRIAN MEDIATION, AND ON THE RESULTS OF THE TOUR HE MADE WITH VICE PRESIDENT ABDUL-HALIM KHADDAM TO GULF ARAB CAPITALS LAST WEEK.

JORDAN IN NOVEMBER HOSTED THE LAST ARAB SUMMIT CONFERENCE, AND MAINTAINS GOOD RELATIONS WITH IRAQ, SYRIAS ARAB RIVAL.

SHARAA, WHOSE COUNTRY IS PERSIAN IRANS ARAB ALLY, HAS ALSO SHUTTLED BETWEEN SAUDI ARABIA AND IRAN, IN WHAT AMOUNTED TO A MEDIATION EFFORT TO EASE TENSION BETWEEN TEHRAN AND ARAB GULF STATES, WHOSE SHIPPING HAS BEEN UNDER INCREASING ATTACK FROM THE IRANIANS.

SHARAA WILL ALSO DISCUSS MEANS AND WAYS TO SUPPORT THE MONTH-OLD UPRISING IN THE ISRAELI-OCCUPIED WEST BANK AND GAZA STRIP, AS WELL AS BILATERAL RELATIONS, THE SOURCES SAID.

THE WEST BANK WAS SEIZED FROM JORDAN IN THE 1967 ARAB-ISRAELI WAR. TWENTY-SEVEN ARABS WERE KILLED BY ISRAELI GUNFIRE IN ANTI-OCCUPATION RIOTING THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORIES SINCE EARLY DECEMBER.

END
1057G 10 01 88

RR0308

U I NCB101 01 NAT 888

LEAD SYRIA-JORDAN

EDS: UPDATES WITH RIFAI RETURNING TO AMMAN

DAMASCUS, SYRIA (AP) - JORDANIAN PRIME MINISTER ZAID RIFAI MET WITH SYRIAN PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD ON SUNDAY TO DISCUSS THE RECENT MIDDLE EAST TOUR OF U.S. ENVOY RICHARD MURPHY AND BRIEF HIM ON THE OUTCOME OF KING HUSSEIN'S EUROPEAN TRIP, DIPLOMATIC SOURCES SAID.

RIFAI FLEW TO DAMASCUS ON A PREVIOUSLY UNANNOUNCED TRIP. HE WAS GREETED AT THE AIRPORT BY HIS SYRIAN COUNTERPART, MAHMOUD EL-ZOUEBI, AND OTHER OFFICIALS. HE RETURNED TO AMMAN LATER IN THE DAY.

DIPLOMATIC SOURCES, 3RD GRAF SYRIA-JORDAN

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RR0230
U I NCB051 01 NAT 888
SYRIA-JORDAN
JORDANIAN PRIME MINISTER MEETS PRESIDENT
DAMASCUS, SYRIA (AP) - JORDANIAN PRIME MINISTER ZAID RIFAI MET WITH SYRIAN PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD ON SUNDAY TO DISCUSS THE RECENT MIDDLE EAST TOUR OF U.S. ENVOY RICHARD MURPHY AND BRIEF HIM ON THE OUTCOME OF KING HUSSEIN'S EUROPEAN TRIP, DIPLOMATIC SOURCES SAID.

RIFAI FLEW TO DAMASCUS ON A PREVIOUSLY UNANNOUNCED TRIP. HE WAS GREETED AT THE AIRPORT BY HIS SYRIAN COUNTERPART, MAHMOUD EL-ZOUEBI, AND OTHER OFFICIALS.

DIPLOMATIC SOURCES SAID RIFAI WOULD BRIEF SYRIAN LEADERS ON THE RESULTS OF KING HUSSEIN'S TOUR OF EUROPEAN CAPITALS.

THE SYRIANS WILL BRIEF THE JORDANIAN OFFICIAL ON MURPHY'S TALKS IN SYRIA, SAID THE SOURCES, REQUESTING ANONYMITY. MURPHY IS AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR NEAR EAST AFFAIRS.

THE DISCUSSIONS ALSO WILL TOUCH ON THE SATURDAY VISIT OF AUSTRALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER BILL HAYDEN TO DAMASCUS.

MEANWHILE, SYRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER FAROUK AL-SHARAA INDICATED SYRIA'S DISAPPROVAL OF PROPOSALS MADE BY MURPHY, WHO VISITED DAMASCUS, JERUSALEM, AND RIYADH, SAUDI ARABIA, EARLIER THIS MONTH IN AN EFFORT TO PROMOTE PEACE EFFORTS.

ISRAELI OFFICIALS REPORTED THAT THE U.S. PLAN OUTLINED BY MURPHY CALLS FOR AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE TO LAUNCH ARAB-ISRAELI TALKS BY APRIL.

NEGOTIATIONS WOULD FIRST FOCUS ON A TEMPORARY SCHEME TO GIVE SELF-RULE TO PALESTINIANS ON THE WEST BANK AND THE GAZA STRIP, ACCORDING TO THE PLAN.

IN A STATEMENT MADE IN REPLY TO QUESTIONS PUT BY AUSTRALIAN CORRESPONDENTS WHO ACCOMPANIED HAYDEN, AL-SHARAA SAID ''WE DON'T THINK THAT THERE IS AN AMERICAN INITIATIVE, IN THE BROAD SENSE OF THE WORD.''

MORE

1505G 14 02 88

RR0231
U I NCB052 01 NAT 888
DAMASCUS - SYRIA-JORDAN 2
''WHAT WE HAVE OBTAINED FROM RICHARD MURPHY DURING OUR RECENT AND LENGTHY TALKS IN DAMASCUS IS THAT THE AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION HAS SOME IDEAS WHICH HAVE NOT YET CRYSTALIZED AND THEY WANT TO KNOW EXACTLY WHAT SYRIA THINKS AND WHAT THE OTHER CONCERNED PARTIES IN THE REGION THINK,'' HE SAID.

AL-SHARAA SAID HE HAD THE IMPRESSION THAT THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION WAS TRYING TO FIND A PARTIAL SOLUTION TO THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM RATHER THAN PROVIDE A COMPREHENSIVE SOLUTION.

''WE HAVE CLEARLY STATED THAT WE ARE AGAINST THESE PARTIAL SOLUTIONS BECAUSE THROUGH PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE, IT HAS BEEN PROVED THAT PARTIAL SOLUTIONS HAVE COMPLICATED THE SITUATION IN THE REGION RATHER THAN HELPED IN FINDING A SOLUTION FOR IT,'' HE SAID.

''WE HAVE ALSO DISCOVERED THAT THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION'S INTENTION IS TO CONTAIN THE UPRISING IN THE OCCUPIED ARAB LANDS RATHER THAN FIND A JUST AND PERMANENT SOLUTION FOR THE PALESTINE QUESTION,'' HE SAID.

AL-SHARAA REITERATED SYRIA'S DEMAND FOR A STRONG INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MIDDLE EAST PEACE.

''WE CONSIDER THAT THE CONVENING OF AN INTERNATIONAL PEACE CONFERENCE ON THE MIDDLE EAST UNDER U.N. AUSPICES AND WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF THE U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL FIVE PERMANENT MEMBER STATES SHOULD BE A REAL THING AND NOT JUST AN UMBRELLA.

''ANY DEVIATION FROM THESE PRINCIPLES WILL ONLY ESCALATE TENSION IN THE REGION AND COMPLICATE THE SITUATION,'' HE WARNED.

ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER YITZHAK SHAMIR HAS OPPOSED THE IDEA OF AN INTERNATIONAL PEACE CONFERENCE. ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTER SHIMON PERES HAS ENDORSED A PROPOSAL FOR A PEACE CONFERENCE ON CONDITION THAT THIS WOULD LEAD TO DIRECT ARAB-ISRAELI NEGOTIATIONS IN THE FUTURE.

END

15086 14 02 88

RR0390
U I NCB062 01 MAT 888
3RD LEAD SYRIA-JORDAN
PRECEDE DAMASCUS
NO PICKUP
EDS: HUSSEIN RETURNS HOME FROM SYRIA
AMMAN, JORDAN (AP) - KING HUSSEIN RETURNED HOME WEDNESDAY AFTER TALKS WITH SYRIAN PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD IN DAMASCUS ON THE OUTCOME OF AN ARAB SUMMIT THAT BROUGHT ASSAD TOGETHER WITH HIS BITTEREST ARAB FOE, PRESIDENT SADDAM HUSSEIN OF IRAQ.

THE OFFICIAL SYRIAN ARAB NEWS AGENCY SAID ONLY THAT DURING THE ONE-DAY VISIT, THE TWO LEADERS DISCUSSED MATTERS RELATED TO THE (NOV.8-11) AMMAN SUMMIT AND ITS RESOLUTIONS.

THE SUMMIT RESOLUTIONS INCLUDED A CONDEMNATION OF IRAN, AN ALLY OF SYRIA, FOR REJECTING ALL INTERNATIONAL BIDS TO SETTLE ITS WAR WITH IRAQ, AND FOR MAKING REPEATED THREATS AGAINST SAUDI ARABIA AND KUWAIT.

IRAN ACCUSES THE TWO GULF ARAB STATES OF SUPPORTING IRAQ IN THE 7-YEAR-OLD GULF WAR.

BEFORE HUSSEINS DEPARTURE, THE OFFICIAL JORDAN NEWS AGENCY SAID: BOTH LEADERS WILL DISCUSS IMPLEMENTING THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE ARAB SUMMIT FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE ARAB COUNTRIES.

HUSSEIN WAS ACCOMPANIED BY HIS PRIME MINISTER, ZAID RIFAI.

IT WAS HUSSEINS FIRST VISIT TO DAMASCUS SINCE THE SUMMIT, ALTHOUGH IN PREVIOUS MONTHS HE HAD REGULARLY SHUTTLED BETWEEN THE IRAQI AND SYRIAN CAPITALS SEEKING TO END THE EIGHT-YEAR FEUD.

HE WAS EXPECTED TO VISIT BAGHDAD LATER THIS WEEK.

SYRIA AND IRAQ, RULED BY RIVAL WINGS OF THE BAATH PARTY, HAVE HAD NO DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS SINCE 1979. THE JORDANIAN MONARCH AND OTHER ARAB LEADERS REPEATEDLY HAVE SAID THE RIFT WAS HINDERING EFFORTS TO RESTORE ARAB UNITY AND BLOCKING A UNIFIED ARAB STRATEGY TOWARD THE CONFLICTS WITH IRAN AND ISRAEL.

MORE
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RR0391

U I NCB063 01 MAT 888

AMMAN - 3RD LEAD SYRIA-JORDAN 2

DURING THE SUMMIT. THE JORDANIAN MONARCH SPONSORED MEETINGS BETWEEN ASSAD AND SADDAM WHICH SET THE STAGE FOR RECONCILIATION. BUT OFFICIALS HAVE SAID THAT RESTORATION OF NORMAL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE NEIGHBORS STILL HAS A LONG WAY TO GO.

HUSSEIN AND OTHER ARAB LEADERS HAVE BEEN CALLING ON THE SYRIAN AND IRAQI LEADERS TO MAINTAIN CONTACT SO DIFFERENCES COULD BE ELIMINATED.

NO PICKUP

191956 25 11 87

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BR0220

U I NCB019 01 MAT 888

2ND LEAD SYRIA-JORDAN

EDDS: UPDATES WITH OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT, TALKS BEGIN

DAMASCUS, SYRIA (AP) - JORDANS KING HUSSEIN ARRIVED WEDNESDAY TO FOLLOW UP ON DECISIONS TO END THE IRAN-IRAQ WAR TAKEN DURING THIS MONTHS ARAB SUMMIT IN TALKS WITH PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD.

BOTH LEADERS WILL DISCUSS IMPLEMENTING THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE ARAB SUMMIT FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE ARAB COUNTRIES, THE OFFICIAL JORDAN NEWS AGENCY REPORTED IN AMMAN, AS IT ANNOUNCED THAT HUSSEIN HEADED TO DAMASCUS.

THE SUMMIT CALLED FOR A CEASE-FIRE IN THE IRAN-IRAQ WAR AND URGED INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS TO ENFORCE A HALT TO THE 7-YEAR-OLD CONFLICT, WHICH IT ACCUSED IRAN OF PROLONGING.

THE OFFICIAL SYRIAN ARAB NEWS AGENCY SAID ASSAD, PRIME MINISTER MAHMOUD ZOUEBI, FOREIGN MINISTER FAROUK AL-SHARAA AND OTHER GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS GREETED HUSSEIN AT DAMASCUS AIRPORT.

HUSSEIN WAS ACCOMPANIED BY HIS PRIME MINISTER, ZAID RIFAI.

ASSAD AND HUSSEIN WERE SEEN DRIVEN IN A MOTORCADE IN A DAMASCUS STREET AFTER MIDDAY, HEADING TO THE MOHAJERINE PRESIDENTIAL PALACE.

OFFICIAL TALKS BEGAN IMMEDIATELY AFTER ARRIVAL, SANA SAID. IT DID NOT DISCLOSE DETAILS.

IT WAS, 5TH GRAF LEAD SYRIA-JORDAN

1210G 25 11 87

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RR0209
U I NCB009 01 MAT 888
LEAD SYRIA-JORDAN
NO PICKUP
EDDS: ADDS DETAILS
DAMASCUS, SYRIA (AP) - JORDANS KING HUSSEIN ARRIVED WEDNESDAY TO FOLLOW UP ON DECISIONS TO END THE IRAN-IRAQ WAR TAKEN DURING THIS MONTHS ARAB SUMMIT IN TALKS WITH PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD.
BOTH LEADERS WILL DISCUSS IMPLEMENTING THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE ARAB SUMMIT FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE ARAB COUNTRIES, THE OFFICIAL JORDAN NEWS AGENCY REPORTED IN AMMAN, AS IT ANNOUNCED THAT HUSSEIN HEADED TO DAMASCUS.
THE SUMMIT CALLED FOR A CEASE-FIRE IN THE IRAN-IRAQ WAR AND URGED INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS TO ENFORCE A HALT TO THE 7-YEAR-OLD CONFLICT, WHICH IT ACCUSED IRAN OF PROLONGING.
THERE WAS NO IMMEDIATE OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT IN SYRIA ON HUSSEINS ARRIVAL AND HIS TALKS WITH ASSAD. BUT THE TWO LEADERS WERE SEEN DRIVEN IN A MOTORCADE IN A DAMASCUS STREET AFTER MIDDAY.
IT WAS THE FIRST VISIT BY HUSSEIN TO DAMASCUS SINCE THE JORDANIAN MONARCH HOSTED AN ARAB LEAGUE SUMMIT IN AMMAN EARLY NOVEMBER THAT LED TO THE BEGINNING OF A PROCESS OF RAPPROCHEMENT BETWEEN FEUDING SYRIA AND IRAQ.
HUSSEIN HAS FREQUENTLY SHUTTLED BETWEEN DAMASCUS AND BAGHDAD AND HAS BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN BRINGING TOGETHER ASSAD AND PRESIDENT SADDAM HUSSEIN OF IRAQ DURING THE SUMMIT.
SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING IRAQ ARE RULED BY RIVAL WINGS OF THE ARAB BAATH SOCIALIST PARTY.
SYRIA HAS MAINTAINED ITS CLOSE TIES TO IRAN DESPITE THE SUMMIT RESOLUTIONS, ALTHOUGH HUSSEIN SAID THAT ASSAD HAD BEGUN THE PROCESS OF RECONCILIATION WITH SADDAM.
BOTH SYRIAN AND IRAQI OFFICIALS HAVE BALKED AT THE TERM RECONCILIATION, ALTHOUGH THE TWO COUNTRIES HAVE TONED DOWN THE WAR OF WORDS WAGED IN THEIR OFFICIAL NEWS MEDIA.
THE JORDANIAN RULER WAS EXPECTED TO VISIT IRAQ LATER THIS WEEK.
NO PICKUP

11146 25 11 87

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BR0203

U I NCB007 01 NAT 888

SYRIA-JORDAN

KING HUSSEIN ARRIVES FOR TALKS WITH ASSAD

DAMASCUS, SYRIA (AP) - JORDANS KING HUSSEIN ARRIVED WEDNESDAY ON A PREVIOUSLY UNANNOUNCED VISIT FOR TALKS WITH PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD.

IT WAS THE FIRST VISIT BY HUSSEIN TO DAMASCUS SINCE THE JORDANIAN MONARCH HOSTED AN ARAB SUMMIT IN AMMAN EARLY NOVEMBER THAT LED TO THE BEGINNING OF A PROCESS OF RAPPROCHEMENT BETWEEN FEUDING SYRIA AND IRAQ.

HUSSEIN HAS SHUTTLED BETWEEN DAMASCUS AND BAGHDAD AND HAS BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN BRINGING TOGETHER ASSAD AND PRESIDENT SADDAM HUSSEIN OF IRAQ DURING THE SUMMIT.

ASSAD AND HUSSEIN WERE SEEN DRIVEN IN A MOTORCADE IN A DAMASCUS STREET AFTER MIDDAY.

SYRIA AND NEIGHBORING IRAQ ARE RULED BY RIVAL WINGS OF THE ARAB BAATH SOCIALIST PARTY. SYRIA SUPPORTS PERSIAN IRAN IN ITS 7-YEAR-OLD WAR AGAINST ARAB IRAQ.

END

1052G 25 11 87

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RR0326
U I NCD587 01 888 WAT
2ND LEAD SYRIA-JORDAN
NIGHT LEAD. NO PICKUP
EDS: SYRIA SAYS NO TO AMMAN SUMMIT
LATAKIA, SYRIA (AP) - SYRIA WILL ''ALMOST CERTAINLY'' NOT ATTEND AN EMERGENCY ARAB LEAGUE SUMMIT SCHEDULED FOR AMMAN NOV.8 IF IT ONLY FOCUSES ON THE IRAN-IRAQ WAR, A HIGH-RANKING SYRIAN OFFICIAL SAID THURSDAY.

THE DISCLOSURE BY THE OFFICIAL, WHO SPOKE ON CONDITION HE WAS NOT IDENTIFIED, CAME SOON AFTER KING HUSSEIN OF JORDAN MADE A SURPRISE VISIT TO SYRIA FOR TALKS WITH PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD ON THE CONFLICT AND THE SUMMIT.

OFFICIALS GAVE NO DETAILS OF THE MEETING HELD IN THE NORTHERN PORT CITY OF LATAKIA, WHERE ASSAD ARRIVED EARLIER TO ATTEND THE CLOSING CEREMONIES OF THE 10TH MEDITERRANEAN GAMES FRIDAY.

BUT JORDAN'S OFFICIAL PETRA NEWS AGENCY REPORTED WHEN HUSSEIN LEFT AMMAN WITH PRIME MINISTER ZAID RIFAI THAT THE TALKS WOULD CENTER ON THE GULF CONFLICT AND PLANS FOR THE SUMMIT.

THE SYRIAN ARAB NEWS AGENCY SAID SYRIAN VICE PRESIDENT ABDUL-HALIM KHADDAM ATTENDED THE TALKS ALONG WITH SENIOR JORDAN OFFICIALS, BUT GAVE NO DETAILS.

HOWEVER, THE SYRIAN OFFICIAL STRESSED IN DAMASCUS THAT ALTHOUGH SYRIA ''SUPPORTED HOLDING THE AMMAN SUMMIT, IT WILL NOT PARTICIPATE IN IT AT ANY LEVEL UNLESS THE AGENDA IS AMENDED ACCORDING TO OUR DEMANDS.''

THE DECISION TO HOLD THE SUMMIT WAS TAKEN BY FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE 22-MEMBER ARAB LEAGUE IN TUNIS LAST SUNDAY AMID MOVES FOR A DIPLOMATIC OFFENSIVE AGAINST IRAN TO PRESSURE IT TO COMPLY WITH A JULY 20 UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION CALLING FOR A CEASE-FIRE IN THE 7-YEAR-OLD GULF WAR.

MORE

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RR0327
U I NCD588 01 888 NAT
LATAKIA - 2ND LEAD SYRIA-JORDAN 2
SYRIA IS IRAN'S SOLE ARAB ALLY FOLLOWING LIBYA'S DEFECTION EARLIER THIS MONTH TO REALIGN WITH THE ARAB WORLD. SYRIA WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN HEADING OFF A CONCERTED ARAB MOVE TO SEVER LINKS WITH IRAN LAST MONTH.

BUT DAMASCUS IS UNDER MOUNTING PRESSURE TO BREAK ITS STRATEGIC ALLIANCE WITH TEHRAN TO ISOLATE AYATOLLAH RUHOLLAH KHOMEINI'S REGIME.

SYRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER FAROUK AL-SHARAA DECLARED WHEN HE RETURNED FROM TUNIS THAT THE AMMAN SUMMIT ''SHOULD BE DEDICATED TO DISCUSS THE ISSUES OF DESTINY AND THE CHALLENGES THE ARAB NATION HAS TO FACE, STARTING WITH ESSENTIAL ISSUES SUCH AS THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT, AND ITS CORE, THE PALESTINIAN CAUSE, AS WELL AS THE LEBANESE CRISIS.

''TO GIVE THE IRAN-IRAQ WAR PRIORITY OVER THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT REPRESENTS A DANGEROUS INDICATOR AGAINST THE FACT THAT THE ARAB NATION IS THREATENED ABOVE ALL BY THE ZIONIST ENEMY.''

ARAB LEAGUE SOURCES SAID THAT SAUDI ARABIA, SCHEDULED TO HOST THE LONG-DELAYED REGULAR ARAB SUMMIT IN RIYADH, IS SEEKING TO ELIMINATE RIFTS IN THE ARAB WORLD BEFORE THAT CONFERENCE IS HELD.

HUSSEIN AND THE SAUDIS HAVE BEEN KEY FIGURES IN ARAB EFFORTS TO PERSUADE ASSAD TO END AN 8-YEAR-OLD RIFT WITH IRAQ AND BREAK WITH TEHRAN TO HEIGHTEN IRAN'S ISOLATION.

HUSSEIN AND THE SAUDI ARABIANS ARRANGED A SUMMIT BETWEEN ASSAD AND IRAQ'S PRESIDENT SADDAM HUSSEIN AT A REMOTE DESERT AIRBASE IN JORDAN IN APRIL.

ASSAD CONFIRMED THAT MEETING IN AN INTERVIEW WITH THE WASHINGTON POST LAST WEEK, BUT SAID NO SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS HAS YET BEEN MADE IN PATCHING UP RELATIONS WITH IRAQ.

MORE

1619G 24 09 87

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RR0328
U I NCD591 01 888 NAT
LATAKIA - 2ND LEAD SYRIA-JORDAN 3
THE SYRIA-IRAQ RIFT, ALONG WITH ASSAD'S OTHER FEUDS WITH EGYPT AND THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION, HAS BEEN A MAJOR STUMBLING BLOCK TO CONVENING AN ARAB SUMMIT. THE LAST FULL SUMMIT, ONCE AN ANNUAL EVENT, WAS HELD IN 1982.
SYRIA, THE SOVIET UNION'S MAIN ALLY IN THE MIDDLE EAST, AND IRAQ ARE RULED BY RIVAL WINGS OF THE ARAB BAATH SOCIALIST PARTY.
HUSSEIN, WHO VISITED DAMASCUS SEVERAL WEEKS AGO, ENDED HIS OWN RIFT WITH SYRIA LAST YEAR.
RIYADH RADIO MONDAY QUOTED KING FAHD OF SAUDI ARABIA AS TELLING HIS CABINET: ''THE PALESTINIAN CAUSE AND THE LEBANESE CRISIS ARE CONSIDERED AMONG THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUES FOR THE ARAB NATION. THEREFORE, WE CAN EXPECT THAT SPECIAL ATTENTION WILL BE GIVEN TO THESE TWO ITEMS AT THE NEXT SUMMIT CONFERENCE.''
BUT HE APPEARED TO BE REFERRING TO THE RIYADH SUMMIT, AS YET UNSCHEDULED, RATHER THAN THE AMMAN CONFERENCE.
THE SAUDIS AND OTHER ARAB STATES FEAR THE GULF WAR COULD ESCALATE AND WIDEN FOLLOWING A SHARP DETERIORATION IN RELATIONS WITH IRAN AND U.S. INTERVENTION IN THE GULF.
KUWAIT'S FOREIGN MINISTER, SHEIK SABAH AL-AHMED, WAS QUOTED MONDAY BY THE LONDON-BASED MIDEAST MIRROR WEEKLY AS SAYING THAT KUWAIT GAVE THE SYRIANS FREE OIL TO ATTEND THE ISLAMIC SUMMIT IN JANUARY AND THAT ''OTHER REQUESTS'' FROM DAMASCUS ARE BEING CONSIDERED.
IRAN'S PARLIAMENT LAST WEEK RATIFIED AN AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE SYRIA WITH 1 MILLION TONS OF FREE OIL, A MOVE WIDELY SEEN AS AN ATTEMPT BY TEHRAN TO KEEP DAMASCUS ON ITS SIDE.
END

1622G 24 09 87

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SYRIA - Jordan ✓
Jordan - Syria

RR0468

U I NCB112 01 MAT 888

LEAD SYRIA-JORDAN

EDS: UPDATES WITH MORE TALKS

DAMASCUS, SYRIA (AP) - KING HUSSEIN OF JORDAN TRAVELED TO SYRIA ON WEDNESDAY AND HELD TWO PRIVATE MEETINGS WITH PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD.

NEITHER SIDE DESCRIBED DETAILS OF THE TALKS, BUT STATE-RUN JORDAN TELEVISION SAID THEY TOUCHED ON ''EFFORTS TO HEAL THE ARAB RIFT AND ACHIEVE SOLIDARITY AMONG ARAB STATES.''

HUSSEIN'S TRIP CAME AMID PRESS REPORTS OF AN IMMINENT RECONCILIATION MEETING BETWEEN ASSAD AND HIS RIVAL, IRAQI PRESIDENT SADDAM HUSSEIN, WHOSE DIFFERENCES HAVE HELPD BLOCK A LONG-DELAYED PAN-ARAB SUMMIT PLANNED TO TAKE PLACE IN SAUDI ARABIA.

THE BEIRUT-BASED ARABIC LANGUAGE WEEKLY AN-NAHAR ARAB AND INTERNATIONAL SAID IN ITS LATEST EDITION THAT AN ASSAD-SADDAM ENCOUNTER WAS ''ALMOST CERTAIN'' TO TAKE PLACE THIS MONTH IN THE JORDANIAN DESERT.

KING HUSSEIN HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN ATTEMPT TO RECONCILE ASSAD WITH THE IRAQI PRESIDENT, ALTHOUGH NONE OF THE THREE HAS CONFIRMED WIDESPREAD REPORT OF A SECRETE TRIPARTITE SUMMIT AT A REMOTE JORDANIAN AIR BASE IN APRIL.

HUSSEIN ARRIVED IN SYRIA SHORTLY BEFORE NOON AND IMMEDIATELY WENT INTO PRIVATE TALKS WITH ASSAD. AFTER A LUNCH WITH OTHER OFFICIALS, THE TWO AGAIN HELD A CLOSED-DOOR SESSION, JORDAN TELEVISION REPORTED.

THE KING'S DELEGATION INCLUDED PRIME MINISTER ZAID RIFAI, ROYAL COURT CHIEF MARWAN QASEM AND COURT MINISTER ADNAN ABU ODEH.

MORE

2014G 24 06 87

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DAMASCUS - LEAD SYRIA-JORDAN 2

RIFAI, QASEM AND ABU ODEH HELD A SEPARATE MEETING DURING THE VISIT WITH SYRIAN PREMIER ABDEL-RAOUF AL-KASM, WHO UNTIL RECENTLY WAS HOSPITALIZED, REPORTEDLY WITH KIDNEY STONES.

IRAN'S REVOLUTIONARY GUARDS MINISTER, MOHSEN RAFIQ-DOUST, VISITED KASM IN HOSPITAL ON JUNE 17.

A DAY LATER, HE TOLD REPORTERS IN DAMASCUS THAT ''REPORTS ABOUT A SYRIAN-IRAQI RAPPROCHEMENT ARE FALSE RUMORS AND LIES.''

SYRIA AND IRAQ, 10TH GRAF SYRIA-JORDAN

2015G 24 06 87

AP

SYRIA - Jordan
Jordan. Syria

RR0260

U 1 NCB072 01 888 NAT

3RD LEAD SYRIA-JORDAN

NIGHT LEAD. NO PICKUP

EDS: UPDATES WITH JORDANIAN DETAILS ON TALKS

DAMASCUS, SYRIA (AP) - JORDANIAN PRIME MINISTER ZAID RIFAI FLEW TO DAMASCUS SUNDAY AND MET WITH SYRIAN PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD DURING A LIGHTNING VISIT, THE OFFICIAL SYRIAN ARAB NEWS AGENCY REPORTED.

IT GAVE NO DETAILS OF THE DISCUSSIONS WHICH LASTED SEVERAL HOURS BEFORE RIFAI FLEW BACK TO AMMAN.

HOWEVER, RIFAI'S UNANNOUNCED VISIT CAME AMID JORDANIAN EFFORTS TO RECONCILE SYRIA WITH ITS LONG-TIME RIVAL, IRAQ, AND HEAL ONE OF THE MAJOR RIFTS IN THE ARAB WORLD.

SYRIA IS IRAN'S MAIN ARAB ALLY IN THE GULF WAR AGAINST IRAQ, NOW IN ITS SEVENTH YEAR, AND A RECONCILIATION BETWEEN DAMASCUS AND BAGHDAD WOULD HAVE FAR-REACHING IMPLICATIONS IN THE REGION.

SANA SAID SYRIAN PRIME MINISTER ABDEL-RAOUF AL-KASM ATTENDED THE TALKS BETWEEN RIFAI AND ASSAD.

JORDAN'S STATE-RUN RADIO REPORTED AFTER RIFAI ARRIVED BACK IN AMMAN THAT HE HAD HANDED ASSAD A MESSAGE FROM KING HUSSEIN, BUT IT DID NOT DISCLOSE THE CONTENTS.

THE RADIO ADDED THAT THE DAMASCUS TALKS DEALT WITH ''THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND ISSUES OF COMMON INTEREST,'' IT GAVE NO OTHER DETAILS.

JORDAN HAS BEEN TRYING TO MEDIATE AN END TO THE 8-YEAR-OLD DISPUTE BETWEEN SYRIA AND IRAQ IN AN EFFORT TO CLOSE ARAB RANKS AND PAVE THE WAY FOR A LONG-DELAYED ARAB SUMMIT MEETING.

SYRIA AND IRAQ ARE RULED BY RIVAL WINGS OF THE ARAB BAATH SOCIALIST PARTY.

MORE

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RR0261

U I NCB076 01 888 NAT

DAMASCUS - 3RD LEAD SYRIA-JORDAN 2

HUSSEIN HAS VISITED DAMASCUS AND BAGHDAD IN THE LAST TWO WEEKS, BUT THERE HAS BEEN NO FIRM INDICATION ON WHETHER HE HAS MADE ANY PROGRESS. AN EARLIER RECONCILIATION EFFORT FIZZLED OUT LAST YEAR.

HOWEVER, INFORMED ARAB SOURCES HAVE REPORTED THAT SYRIAN AND IRAQI LEADERS MET AT A REMOTE JORDANIAN AIR BASE IN APRIL FOR RECONCILIATION TALKS SPONSORED BY JORDAN AND SAUDI ARABIA.

THERE HAVE BEEN PERSISTENT REPORTS THAT ASSAD AND IRAQI PRESIDENT SADDAM HUSSEIN WILL MEET FOR A SUMMIT SOON.

INFORMED SOURCES HAVE INDICATED THAT SEVERAL DIFFERENCES REMAIN TO BE OVERCOME, BUT THEY DID NOT ELABORATE.

JORDAN AND SYRIA WERE AT ODDS FOR FIVE YEARS UNTIL DECEMBER 1985, WHEN THEY PATCHED UP THEIR DIFFERENCES.

SINCE THEN, PRO-WESTERN JORDAN AND SOVIET-BACKED SYRIA HAVE BEEN CLOSELY COORDINATING REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL POLICIES.

END

1823G 05 07 87

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RR0367

U 1 NCB072 01 NAT 888

SYRIA-JORDAN

KING HUSSEIN FLIES TO DAMASCUS

AMMAN, JORDAN (AP) - KING HUSSEIN FLEW TO SYRIA ON THURSDAY AND BEGAN TALKS WITH PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD, A DAY AFTER MEETING WITH ASSAD'S RIVALS IN IRAQ.

STATE-RUN JORDAN TELEVISION REPORTED THE VISIT. IT SAID THE KING WAS ACCOMPANIED BY PRIME MINISTER ZAID RIFAI, COURT MINISTER ADNAN ABU ODEH AND THE ARMED FORCES COMMANDER, GEN. ZAID BIN SHAKER.

DETAILS OF THE TRIP WERE NOT REVEALED, BUT HUSSEIN HAS BEEN SEEKING SYRIAN COOPERATION IN TWO MAJOR FOREIGN POLICY EFFORTS: THE ARAB-ISRAELI PEACE EFFORT AND SYRIAN-IRAQI RECONCILIATION.

HUSSEIN RETURNED EARLY THURSDAY MORNING FROM BAGHDAD, WHERE HE MET WITH IRAQI PRESIDENT SADDAM HUSSEIN. ASSAD AND THE IRAQI LEADER ARE BITTER FOES, LEADERS OF RIVAL WINGS OF THE ARAB BAATH SOCIALIST PARTY.

JORDAN HAS BEEN TRYING TO RECONCILE ITS NORTHERN AND EASTERN NEIGHBORS, SYRIA AND IRAQ, IN PART TO PAVE THE WAY FOR A PAN-ARAB SUMMIT CONFERENCE WHICH HAS BEEN DELAYED SINCE 1983.

U.S. AND KUWAITI NEWSPAPERS REPORTED THAT JORDAN LAST MONTH HOSTED A SECRET IRAQI-SYRIAN SUMMIT, BUT NONE OF THE COUNTRIES INVOLVED HAS CONFIRMED SUCH A MEETING OCCURRED.

A SIMILAR PLANNED SUMMIT COLLAPSED LAST YEAR AFTER HUSSEIN HAD ANNOUNCED IT IN WASHINGTON.

THE JORDANIAN MONARCH ALSO HAS INSISTED THAT SYRIA BE INVOLVED IN ANY ARAB-ISRAELI PEACE EFFORTS, DESPITE U.S. AND ISRAELI RELUCTANCE TO PULL THE SYRIANS INTO THE INTERNATIONAL PEACE CONFERENCE JORDAN SEEKS.

MORE

1727G 14 05 87

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RR0368

U 1 NCB074 01 NAT 888

ANMAN - SYRIA-JORDAN 2

JORDANIAN OFFICIALS SAY THEY HAVE OBTAINED SYRIAN ACCPETANCE OF THEIR PROPOSAL FOR BILATERAL TALKS WITH ISRAEL WITHIN A UNITED NATIONS-SPONSORED INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE.

BUT THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE PROPOSAL HIT A STUMBLING BLOCK ON WEDNESDAY WHEN ITS ISRAELI BACKER, FOREIGN MINISTER SHIMON PERES, FAILED TO OVERCOME CABINET OPPOSITION LED BY PRIME MINISTER YITZHAK SHAMIR.

END

1728G 14 05 87

RR0591

R I NCB030 01 888 ADM PSM

2ND LEAD SYRIA-JORDAN

EDS: UPDATES WITH RIFAI'S RETURN TO AMMAN. ADDS THAT HE DELIVERED MESSAGE FROM HUSSEIN

DAMASCUS, SYRIA (AP) - PRIME MINISTER ZAID RIFAI OF JORDAN MET WITH PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD ON THURSDAY TO DISCUSS DEVELOPMENTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

RIFAI WAS MET AT DAMASCUS AIRPORT BY HIS COUNTERPART, ABDUL-RAOUF AL-KASM, AND FOREIGN MINISTER FAROUK AL-SHARAA. HE MET WITH ASSAD FOR 4 1-2 HOURS.

AFTER RIFAI RETURNED TO AMMAN, STATE-RUN JORDAN TELEVISION SAID HE

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RR0556

R I NCB024 01 888 ADM PSM

LEAD SYRIA-JORDAN

EDS: UPDATES WITH CONFIRMATION THAT RIFAI MET ASSAD, PURPOSE OF TALKS

DAMASCUS, SYRIA (AP) - PRIME MINISTER ZAID RIFAI OF JORDAN MET WITH PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD ON THURSDAY TO DISCUSS DEVELOPMENTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

RIFAI WAS MET AT DAMASCUS AIRPORT BY HIS COUNTERPART, ABDUL-RAOUF AL-KASM, AND FOREIGN MINISTER FAROUK AL-SHARAA. HE MET WITH ASSAD FOR 4 1-2 HOURS, THEN LEFT SYRIA.

THE SYRIAN OFFICIAL NEWS AGENCY SANA SAID THE TALKS FOCUSED ON DEVELOPMENTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST, AND BILATERAL RELATIONS.

SYRIA AND, 4TH GRAF SYRIA-JORDAN

(MDM)

1938G 06 11 86

RR0291

U I NCB007 01 888 ADM PSM

SYRIA-JORDAN

JORDANIAN PREMIER IN SYRIA

DAMASCUS, SYRIA (AP) - JORDANIAN PRIME MINISTER ZAID RIFAI ARRIVED IN SYRIA ON THURSDAY AND HEADED TO THE PRESIDENTIAL PALACE, APPARENTLY FOR TALKS WITH PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD.

RIFAI WAS MET AT DAMASCUS AIRPORT BY HIS COUNTERPART, ABDUL-RAOUF AL-KASM, AND FOREIGN MINISTER FAROUK AL-SHARAA.

THERE WAS NO IMMEDIATE WORD ON THE PURPOSE OF RIFAI'S VISIT.

SYRIA AND JORDAN, LONG AT ODDS, WERE RECONCILED LAST YEAR THROUGH SAUDI ARABIAN MEDIATION. BOTH JORDAN AND SAUDI ARABIA HAVE SINCE BEEN TRYING, WITHOUT SUCCESS, TO MEND THE RIFT BETWEEN SYRIA AND IRAQ.

THOSE TWO COUNTRIES ARE RULED BY RIVAL WINGS OF THE ARAB SOCIALIST BAATH PARTY, BUT SYRIA SUPPORTS THE PERSIAN NATION OF IRAN IN ITS SIX-YEAR-OLD WAR AGAINST IRAQ. ALL OTHER ARAB COUNTRIES BUT LIBYA SUPPORT IRAQ.

END (JSR)

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RT637 3 I 158 T509

SYRIA-JORDAN

REPEATING T508 TO INSERT DROPPED WORDS

JORDINISTER SAYS ISRAEL NOT SERIOUS ABOUT PEACE

DAMASCUS, SYRIA (AP) - JORDANIAN INFORMATION MINISTER MOHAMMED AL-KHATIB SAID THURSDAY ISRAEL IS ''NOT SERIOUS'' ABOUT ESTABLISHING PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

HE SPOKE TO REPORTERS AT DAMASCUS AIRPORT BEFORE LEAVING FOR HOME AT THE END OF A THREE-DAY VISIT TO SYRIA.

THE OFFICIAL SYRIAN NEWS AGENCY QUOTED AL-KHATIB AS ALSO SAYING HIS COUNTRY AND SYRIA WILL WORK ''HAND IN HAND TO FIND A SOLUTION FOR THE MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT.''

''BUT ISRAEL IS NOT BEING SERIOUS ABOUT ESTABLISHING A JUST PEACE,'' HE SAID.

AL-KHATIB WAS SEEN OFF BY HIS SYRIAN COUNTERPART, YASSIN RAJOUH. DURING HIS STAY, HE ALSO MET PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD AND DISCUSSED WITH HIM MIDDLE EAST ISSUES AND WAYS TO IMPROVE SYRIAN-JORDANIAN COOPERATION.

THE TWO COUNTRIES PATCHED UP RELATIONS SIX MONTHS AGO AFTER A SIX-YEAR RUPTURE.

END (LF-MZ)

261301 JUN 86

RT209 5 I 115 T512

SYRIA-JORDAN

ASSAD CONFERS WITH JORDANIAN INFORMATION MINISTER

DAMASCUS, SYRIA (AP) - PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD CONFERRED WEDNESDAY WITH VISITING JORDANIAN INFORMATION MINISTER MOHAMMED AL-KHATIB ON BILATERAL RELATIONS, THE OFFICIAL SYRIAN NEWS AGENCY REPORTED.

IT SAID THE MEETING WAS ATTENDED BY SYRIAN INFORMATION MINISTER YASSIN RAJOUH.

AL-KHATIB ARRIVED TUESDAY FOR TALKS WITH SYRIAN OFFICIALS ON WAYS TO IMPROVE MEDIA COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO NATIONS.

JORDAN AND SYRIA RECONCILED LAST DECEMBER AFTER A SIX-YEAR STRAIN IN RELATIONS OVER MIDDLE EAST POLITICS.

SINCE THEN OFFICIALS FROM BOTH COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN SHUTTLING BETWEEN THE TWO CAPITALS SEEKING TO CEMENT THE RECONCILIATION AND IMPROVE COOPERATION.

END (LF/MZ)

251320 JUN 86

RT257 3 I 230 T541

--REPEATING--
2ND LEAD JORDAN-SYRIA
NIGHT LEAD; NO PICKUP
EDS: KING IN DAMASCUS, CLOSED MEETING WITH ASSAD, OFFICIAL BANQUET

DAMASCUS, SYRIA (AP) -- KING HUSSEIN OF JORDAN HELD TWO ROUNDS OF TALKS IN DAMASCUS SATURDAY WITH SYRIAN PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD APPARENTLY TO CONTINUE EFFORTS AT ENDING THE LONG-RUNNING FEUD BETWEEN SYRIA AND IRAQ AND PAVE THE WAY FOR AN ARAB SUMMIT.

THE MONARCH ARRIVED IN DAMASCUS EARLIER IN THE DAY, ACCOMPANIED BY A JORDANIAN DELEGATION, INCLUDING PRIME MINISTER ZAID (CQ) RIFAI. HE WAS GREETED AT THE AIRPORT BY ASSAD AND SYRIAN PREMIER ABDEL-RAUF KASM.

THE TWO LEADERS DROVE IN A HEAVILY GUARDED MOTORCADE TO THE OFFICIAL GUEST PALACE IN DAMASCUS WHERE THEY HELD A FIRST ROUND OF TALKS IN THE PRESENCE OF THEIR RESPECTIVE PRIME MINISTERS, SYRIAN OFFICIALS REPORTED.

AFTERWARDS HUSSEIN AND ASSAD MET PRIVATELY, WHILE THEIR PRIME MINISTERS CONFERRED SEPARATELY ON BILATERAL ISSUES, THE OFFICIALS SAID WITHOUT GIVING FURTHER DETAILS.

ASSAD WAS SCHEDULED TO THROW A BANQUET IN HUSSEINS HONOR LATER IN THE EVENING.

HUSSEIN FLEW TO BAGHDAD, THE IRAQI CAPITAL, LAST SATURDAY FOR TALKS WITH IRAQI PRESIDENT SADDAM HUSSEIN AND OTHER IRAQI OFFICIALS. THE JORDANIAN KING HAS BEEN TRYING TO RECONCILE SYRIA AND IRAQ, RULED BY RIVAL WINGS OF THE ARAB SOCIALIST BAATH PARTY.

MORE (LF-SF)

261901 JUL 86

RT259 3 I 115 T542

DAMASCUS -- 2ND LEAD JORDAN-SYRIA 2

SYRIA SUPPORTS PERSIAN IRAN IN THE SIX-YEAR-OLD WAR AGAINST IRAQ, AND JORDAN BACKS IRAQ IN THE CONFLICT.

JORDAN ITSELF RECONCILED WITH SYRIA LAST YEAR IN A SAUDI ARABIAN-SPONSORED INITIATIVE.

THE JORDANIAN EFFORTS EARLIER HAD LED TO PLANS FOR THE IRAQI AND SYRIAN FOREIGN MINISTERS TO MEET ON JUNE 13. BUT THE MEETING WAS CANCELLED AT THE LAST MOMENT, APPARENTLY BECAUSE THE SYRIANS OBJECTED TO STATEMENTS MADE BY IRAQI LEADERS.

THE SYRIAN-IRAQ BORDER HAS BEEN CLOSED SINCE 1982 AND ALSO A PIPELINE THAT CARRIED IRAQI OIL TO THE MEIDTERRANEAN.

END (LFSF)

261904 JUL 86

RR0238
U I T511 01 888 PSR ADR
LEAD JORDAN-SYRIA
PRECEDE AMMAN
EDS: HUSSEIN ARIVES IN DAMASCUS
DAMASCUS, SYRIA (AP) - KING HUSSEIN OF JORDAN ARRIVED IN DAMASCUS SATURDAY APPARENTLY TO CONTINUE EFFORTS AT ENDING THE LONG-RUNNING FEUD BETWEEN SYRIA AND IRAQ AND PAVING THE WAY FOR AN ARAB SUMMIT.

THE MONARCH, ACCOMPANIED BY JORDANIAN PRIME MINISTER ZIAD RIFAI, WAS WELCOMED AT THE AIRPORT BY SYRIAN PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD AND HIS PRIME MINISTER ABDEL-RAOUF KASM.

THE TWO LEADERS DROVE IN A HEAVILY GUARDED MOTORCADE TO THE OFFICIAL GUEST PALACE IN DAMASCUS WHERE THEY HELD A FIRST ROUND OF TALKS.

BOTH PRIME MINISTERS ATTENDED THE SESSION, SYRIAN OFFICIALS REPORTED. BUT THE GAVE NO OTHER DETAILS.

HUSSEIN RECENTLY, 2ND GRAF AMMAN JORDAN-SYRIA AMM001.

END (LF-AE-EB)

1206G 26 07 86

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RT044 3 I 171 AMM001

JORDAN-SYRIA
KING FLIES TO DAMASCUS
AMMAN, JORDAN (AP) - KING HUSSEIN FLEW TO NEIGHBORING SYRIA ON SATURDAY, APPARENTLY TO CONTINUE EFFORTS AT ENDING THE FEUD BETWEEN SYRIA AND IRAQ AND PAVING THE WAY FOR AN ARAB SUMMIT.

THE KING'S DEPARTURE WAS ANNOUNCED BY THE OFFICIAL NEWS AGENCY, PETRA, WHICH SAID HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY PRIME MINISTER ZAID RIFAI AND ROYAL COURT CHIEF MARWAN QASEM.

HUSSEIN RECENTLY TOLD REPORTERS HE PLANNED TO RESUME HIS ATTEMPTS TO RECONCILE SYRIAN PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD AND IRAQI PRESIDENT SADDAM HUSSEIN, WHOSE FEUD HAS HELPED FRUSTRATE EFFORTS TO CONVENE AN ARAB SUMMIT.

THE KING FLEW TO BAGHDAD LAST SATURDAY FOR TALKS WITH THE IRAQI LEADER.

THE JORDANIAN EFFORTS EARLIER HAD LED TO PLANS FOR THE IRAQI AND SYRIAN FORIEGN MINISTERS TO MEET ON JUNE 13. BUT THAT

SESSION WAS CALLED OFF AT THE LAST MOMENT, APPARENTLY BECAUSE THE SYRIANS OBJECTED TO STATEMENTS MADE BY IRAQI LEADERS.

MORE
(JSR)

260912 JUL 86

RT048 3 I 116 AMN002

AMMAN - JORDAN-SYRIA 2

IRAQ AND SYRIA, HISTORICALLY RIVALS FOR INFLUENCE IN THE ARAB WORLD, ARE RULED BY RIVAL WINGS OF THE ARAB SOCIALIST BAATH PARTY.

SYRIA HAS SUPPORTED IRAN IN THE LONG GULF WAR AGAINST IRAQ AND RECENTLY SIGNED AN AGREEMENT TO RECEIVE CUT-PRICED IRANIAN OIL, WHICH HAD BEEN INTERRUPTED LAST YEAR.

JORDAN HAS SUPPORTED IRAQ THROUGHOUT THE WAR, AND ITSELF RECONCILED WITH SYRIA LAST LAST YEAR IN A SAUDI ARABIAN-SPONSORED EFFORT.

THRE BORDER BETWEEN SYRIA AND IRAQ HAS BEEN CLOSED SINCE 1982, AS IS A PIPELINE THAT HAD CARRIED IRAQI OIL TO THE MEDITERRANEAN.

END

(JSR)

260920 JUL 86

RT709 6 I 133 T511

JORDAN-SYRIA
JORDANIAN INFORMATION MINISTER IN DAMASCUS
DAMASCUS, SYRIA (AP) - JORDAN'S INFORMATION MINISTER MOHAMMED AL-KHATIB, ARRIVED TUESDAY FOR TALKS WITH HIS COUNTERPART, YASSIN RAJOUH, ON BOOSTING MEDIA COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO NEIGHBORING ARAB NATIONS.
THE OFFICIAL SYRIAN NEWS AGENCY QUOTED AL-KHATIB AS SAYING AT THE AIRPORT: "WE ARE CONDUCTING IMPORTANT TALKS FOR A COMPREHENSIVE COOPERATION BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES."
SYRIA AND JORDAN RECONCILED LAST DECEMBER AFTER A SIX-YEAR STRAIN IN RELATIONS. SINCE THEN, CABINET MEMBERS HAVE BEEN SHUTTLING BETWEEN THE TWO CAPITALS TO CEMENT THE RECONCILIATION AND STRENGHTEN COOPERATION.
SYRIA'S MINISTER OF ECONOMY AND FOREIGN TRADE, MOHAMMED EL-IMADY FLEW HOME MONDAY AFTER A THREE-DAY VISIT TO AMMAN DURING WHICH HE HELD SEVERAL MEETINGS WITH HIS JORDANIAN COUNTERPART KHAJAI AL-MOUASHER.
END (LF/MZ)

241056 JUN 86

Syr. Cees.

RT774 5 I 260 BEC015 Syria - Jordan -

SYRIA-RAILWAY
RAIL FREIGHT LINK BETWEEN SYRIA AND JORDAN REOPENS
DAMASCUS: SYRIA (AP) - A RAILROAD FREIGHT SERVICE BETWEEN SYRIA AND JORDAN WAS REOPENED SATURDAY AFTER AN 18-MONTH SUSPENSION CAUSED BY STRAINED RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO NEIGHBORS; HIJAZ RAILWAY DIRECTOR-GENERAL AQIL ISMAIL SAID.

THE FIRST TRAIN LEFT DAMASCUS FOR AMMAN ON THE EVE OF A SECOND ROUND OF RECONCILIATION TALKS BETWEEN SYRIA AND JORDAN SET FOR SUNDAY IN SAUDI ARABIA.

ISMAIL SAID A TRAIN WITH A 300-TON CAPACITY WILL MAKE REGULAR WEEKLY SHUTTLES BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES ON THE HIJAZ RAILWAY.

THE RAILROAD WAS ESTABLISHED BY THE OTTAMAN EMPIRE AT THE TURN OF THE CENTURY TO TRANSPORT PILGRIMS FROM DAMASCUS TO ISLAM'S HOLY SHRINE AT MECCA; SAUDI ARABIA; VIA AMMAN.

THE RIFT BETWEEN PRO-SOVIET SYRIA AND WESTERN-ORIENTED JORDAN IS MAINLY DUE TO JORDANIAN KING HUSSEIN'S EFFORTS WITH PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION CHAIRMAN YASSER ARAFAT TO FIND A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT FOR THE CONFLICT WITH ISRAEL; WITHOUT UNANIMOUS ARAB SUPPORT.

THE 22-MEMBER ARAB LEAGUE SET UP A COMMITTEE AT ITS LAST SUMMIT CONFERENCE IN MOROCCO IN AUGUST TO SORT OUT INTER-ARAB RIFTS.

THE COMMITTEE IS HEADED BY SAUDI CROWN PRINCE ABDULLAH BIN ABDEL-AZIZ; WHO WILL SUPERVISE THE RECONCILIATION MEETING IN JIDDA SUNDAY BETWEEN SYRIAN PRIME MINISTER ABDEL-RAOUF EL-KASM AND HIS JORDANIAN COUNTERPART; ZEID RIFAI.

THE FIRST MEETING BETWEEN THE TWO PREMIERS LAST MONTH WAS SAID TO HAVE CLEARED SOME OF DIFFERENCES; BUT THE GAP REGARDING MIDDLE EAST POLITICS AND A SETTLEMENT WITH ISRAEL REMAINED WIDE.

END (LF-MZ-EB)

191545 OCT 85

RR455

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ASSAD,0198

SIGNS FRIENDSHIP PACT WITH CZECHOSLOVAKIA

PRAGUE, CZECHOSLOVAKIA (AP) - PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD OF SYRIA WEDNESDAY ENDED HIS THREE-DAY VISIT TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA AFTER SIGNING A FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION TREATY WITH PRESIDENT GUSTAV HUSAK, THE CZECHOSLOVAK NEWS AGENCY CTK REPORTED.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA IS TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE SYRIAN NUCLEAR POWER PROGRAM BY SHIPPING REACTORS, BUT NO DETAILS WERE REPORTED.

THE TREATY SAYS THAT CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND SYRIA WILL NOT JOIN ANY ALLIANCE OR MOVEMENT DIRECTED AGAINST THE OTHER PARTY.

ONE PROVISION SAYS IN CASE PEACE AND SECURITY OF ONE OF THE PARTIES OR INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY ARE THREATENED OR VIOLATED, THE TWO COUNTRIES ''IMMEDIATELY GET INTO CONTACT WITH THE AIM OF COORDINATING THEIR RESPECTIVE STANDS AND COOPERATING FOR REMOVAL OF DANGERS...AND FOR REINSTATING PEACE AND SECURITY.''

ACCORDING TO CTK, ASSAD AND HUSAK ALSO STRESSED THE NEED THAT ''MILITARY NAVAL ACTIVITIES OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES'' IN THE GULF AREA AND RED SEA BE RESTRICTED AND THAT FOREIGN MILITARY BASES AND NUCLEAR WEAPONS BE BANNED FROM THE REGION.

THE TWO LEADERS ALSO SAW THE NEED TO RESTORE THE UNITY OF THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION (PLO) ON A ''PATRIOTIC, PROGRESSIVE AND ANTI-IMPERIALIST BASIS.''

END

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RR207

Q I BAH008 01 888 ADR PSR

RECONCILIATION

JORDANIAN, SYRIAN REPRESENTATIVES TO MEET AGAIN IN OCTOBER

JIDDA, SAUDI ARABIA (AP) - TWO DAYS OF SAUDI ARABIAN-SPONSORED RECONCILIATION TALKS BETWEEN SYRIA AND JORDAN WOUND UP HERE TUESDAY WITH THE SAUDI CROWN PRINCE ABDULLAH ANNOUNCING A NEW ROUND WAS PLANNED FOR THE LATTER PART OF OCTOBER, THE SAUDI STATE-RUN RADIO REPORTED.

THE MEETING ATTENDED BY JORDANIAN PRIME MINISTER ZAID AL-RIFAI AND HIS SYRIAN COUNTERPART ABDUL-RAUF AL-KASM, MARKED THE FIRST HIGH-LEVEL BREAKTHROUGH IN RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, SEVERED BY DAMASCUS IN 1980 AFTER ACCUSING AMMAN OF HARBORING ANTI-SYRIAN MOSLEM BROTHERHOOD OPERATIVES.

PRINCE ABDULLAH SAID THE MEETING WAS ''HIGHLY POSITIVE'' AND AGREEMENT WAS REACHED ON UNDISCLOSED STEPS TO ''CREATE A PROPITIOUS ATMOSPHERE FOR DEVELOPING THE RELATIONS'' BETWEEN THE TWO ARAB STATES, THE RADIO REPORTED.

SAUDI CROWN PRINCE PRESIDED OVER THE MEETING IN HIS CAPACITY AS CHAIRMAN OF AN ARAB LEAGUE COMMITTEE DESIGNED TO CLEAR ARAB DIFFERENCES AND PAVE THE WAY FOR A PAN-ARAB SUMMIT CONFERENCE TO BE HOSTED BY RIYADH IN NOVEMBER.

OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ARE ARAB LEAGUE SECRETARY-GENERAL CHADLI KLIBI AND TUNISIAN PRIME MINISTER MOHAMED MZALI.

SAUDI KING FAHD ADDED WEIGHT TO THE RECONCILIATION BID IN THE COURSE OF A MEETING HE HELD WITH THE VISITING DELEGATIONS SHORTLY AFTER THEIR FIRST FOUR-HOUR SESSION TOOK PLACE MONDAY.

(MORE/SPA/NM)

1250G 17 09 85

RR208
Q I BAH009 01 888 ADR PSR
JIDDA - RECONCILIATION 2
SYRIA BOYCOTTED THE EMERGENCY ARAB SUMMIT CONFERENCE HELD IN MOROCCO IN AUGUST AT WHICH THE COMMITTEE WAS INITIATED, MAINLY BECAUSE OF ITS OPPOSITION TO A DRIVE BEING WAGED JOINTLY BY JORDAN AND THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION TO TALK THE U.S. INTO SPONSORING A NEW MIDEAST PEACE DRIVE WITH ISRAEL.
SYRIA'S DIFFERENCES WITH AMMAN AND THE PLO CHAIRMANSHIP OF YASSER ARAFAT WERE ONE OF THE MAIN REASONS HOLDING UP RIYADH'S HOSTING OF THE REGULAR ARAB SUMMIT CONFERENCE ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER 1983.
ARAB DIPLOMATS IN THIS SAUDI SUMMER CAPITAL NOTED THAT THE NEXT RECONCILIATION ROUND BETWEEN DAMASCUS AND AMMAN WOULD BE TAKING PLACE AFTER JORDAN'S KING HUSSEIN DISCUSSED THE PEACE DRIVE WITH U.S. PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN IN WASHINGTON ON SEPTEMBER 30.
THE PLO EXECUTIVE COUNCIL IS SCHEDULED TO HOLD A MEETING IN BAGHDAD, IRAQ LATER THIS MONTH WHERE THE OUTCOME OF THE JIDDA TALKS WILL BE DISCUSSED, THE DIPLOMATIC SOURCES SAID.
PRINCE ABDULLAH'S MEDIATION COMMITTEE WAS ALSO ENTRUSTED WITH SEEKING A RAPPROCHEMENT BETWEEN SYRIA AND IRAQ, BUT VISITS BY THE ARAB COMMITTEE OVER THE PAST WEEK TO THE CONCERNED CAPITALS DID NOT SUCCEED ON THAT SCORE.
SYRIA AND IRAQ ARE RULED BY RIVAL WINGS OF THE ARAB BARTH SOCIALIST PARTY. DIFFERENCES BETWEEN BAGHDAD AND DAMASCUS SHARPENED WITH THE OUTBREAK OF THE GULF WAR IN SEPTEMBER 1980 WHEN SYRIA SIDED WITH PERSIAN IRAN AGAINST ARAB IRAQ.
(END/AS/NM)
12536 17 09 85

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ZCZCH511
Q 01 PSR ADR BTM 888
.01 888 PSR ADR BTM
SYRIA-JORDAN
PREMIERS OPEN SECOND DAY OF RECONCILLIATION TALKS
DAMASCUS, SYRIA (AP) - THE PRIME MINISTERS OF JORDAN AND SYRIA HALD A SECOND DAY OF RECONCILLIATION TALKS IN DAMASCUS WEDNESDAY, FOCUSING ON THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT AND BILATERAL ECONOMIC, FINANCIAL AND POLITICAL TIES, AN OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT SAID.
IT WAS THE FOURTH ROUND OF TALKS BETWEEN THE TWO LEADERS SINCE JORDANℜS PRIME MINISTER ZAID RIFAI ARRIVED IN THE SYRIAN CAPITAL TUESDAY, THE OFFICIAL SYRIAN ARAB NEWS AGENCY SANA REPORTED.
RIFAI AND HIS SYRIAN COUNTERPART ABDEL-RAOUF KASM WERE FLANKED BY TOP FOREIGN AFFAIRS AIDES.
THE MID-MORNING CONFERENCE FOLLOWED A SEVEN-HOUR MEETING RIFAI HELD WITH SYRIAN PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD TUESDAY NIGHT..
SANA SAID AFTER THE MEETING AT ASSADℜS MOHAJEREEN PRESIDENTIAL PALACE THAT RIFAI CONVEYED A VERBAL MESSAGE FROM JORDANℜS KING HUSSEIN TO THE SYRIAN PRESIDENT AND GOT A REPLY FROM ASSAD.
SANA DID NOT REPORT THE CONTENTS OF EITHER MESSAGE, BUT SAID THE TALKS FOCUSED ON ℜℜBILATERAL RELATIONS AND ISSUES CONCERNING THE TWO COUNTRIES AS WELL AS THE WHOLE AREA.ℜℜ
RIFAIℜS VISIT WAS THE FIRST BY A JORDANIAN PRIME MINISTER SINCE 1979. A DECLARATION LAST SUNDAY BY KING HUSSEIN THAT HE WOULD NOT ALLOW ANTI-ASSAD MOSLEM FUNDAMENTALIST GUERRILLAS TO SHELTER IN JORDAN APPEAARED TO HAVE RESOLVED A FIVE-YEAR-OLD STRAIN BETWEEN THE TWO ARAB NEIGHBORS.
END (LF-RK-FN)
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SYRIA-JORDAN

SYRIANS WELCOME HUSSEIN'S DECLARATION

DAMASCUS, SYRIA (AP) - SYRIA ON MONDAY WELCOMED A DECLARATION BY JORDAN'S KING HUSSEIN THAT HE WOULD NO MORE ALLOW MOSLEM FUNDAMENTALISTS OPPOSED TO SYRIAN PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD'S GOVERNMENT TO SHELTER IN JORDAN.

''WE RECEIVED THE ANNOUNCEMENT WITH RELIEF,'' SAID AN AUTHORITATIVE SYRIAN SOURCE OF THE KING'S ANNOUNCEMENT THAT WAS MADE IN A LETTER ADDRESSED TO JORDAN'S PRIME MINISTER ZAID RIFAI ON SUNDAY.

THE UNNAMED SOURCE, WHOSE BRIEF STATEMENT WAS REPORTED BY THE OFFICIAL SYRIAN ARAB NEWS AGENCY SANA, SPOKE AFTER SYRIA'S GOVERNMENT- CONTROLLED NEWSPAPERS AND RADIO STATIONS GAVE KING'S DECLARATION BANNERLINE TREATMENT.

HUSSEIN'S MOVE APPEARED TO DISPEL A FIVE-YEAR-OLD STRAIN WITH SYRIA OVER JORDAN'S ALLEGED BACKING OF UNDERGROUND MOSLEM BROTHERHOOD FUNDAMENTALISTS IN AN ILL-FATED GUERRILLA CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE ASSAD GOVERNMENT.

''IT TURNS OUT THAT SOME WHO DID HAVE A CONNECTION WITH THE BLOODY EVENTS IN SYRIA WERE PRESENT IN OUR QUARTERS,'' HUSSEIN SAID. ''THERE IS NO ROOM AMONG US AFTER TODAY FOR ANY BETRAYER, PLOTTER OR AGENT OF THE ENEMIES.''

THE MONARCH FOLLOWED UP HIS SOOTHING DECLARATION WITH A DECISION TO DISPATCH RIFAI TO DAMASCUS, THE SYRIAN CAPITAL, ON TUESDAY TO DISCUSS ARRANGEMENTS FOR A HUSSEIN-ASSAD SUMMIT CONFERENCE. THE TWO ARAB LEADERS LAST MET IN 1980 IN BELGRADE, WHERE THEY ATTENDED THE FUNERAL OF MARSHALL TITO.

RIFAI'S VISIT TO SYRIA WOULD BE THE FIRST BY A JORDANIAN PRIME MINISTER SINCE 1979.

THE SYRIA-JORDAN RECONCILIATION WAS LARGELY CREDITED TO SAUDI ARABIA'S MEDIATION. RIFAI HELD TWO ROUNDS OF FENCE-MENDING TALKS WITH HIS SYRIAN COUNTERPART ABDUL-RAOUF KASM IN RIYADH, THE SAUDI CAPITAL.

END (LF-FN)

L1/11/12-35G

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RR287

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JORDAN-SYRIA

ARAB NEIGHBORSTHE TWO NEIGHBORS DISCUSS ECONOMIC COOPERATION

DAMASCUS, SYRIA (AP) - JORDANIAN ECONOMY MINISTER RAJAI AL-MARASHAR MET SATURDAY WITH HIS SYRIAN COUNTERPART, MOHAMMED AL-IMADY, AND SYRIAN PRIME MINISTER ABDEL RAOUD AL-KASM ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION, THE SYRIAN ARAB NEWS AGENCY REPORTED.

THE TALKS WERE HELD AMID MOVED BY THE TWO ARAB NEIGHBORS TO PATCH UP RELATIONS AFTER TWO YEARS OF STRAIN.

SANA REPORTED THAT AL-MARASHAR WAS WAS ACCOMPANIED BY A LARGE DELEGATION OF OFFICIALS FROM HIS MINISTRY.

JORDAN AND SYRIA, LONG AT ODDS OVER MIDDLE EAST POLITICS, HAVE HELD TWO ROUNDS OF RECONCILIATION TALKS IN SAUDI ARABIA THIS MONTH.

LAST WEEK, THE TWO COUNTRIES RESUMED RAILROAD FREIGHT SERVICES AFTER AN 18-MONTH SUSPENSION BECAUSE OF THEIR POLITICAL DIFFERENCES.

SANA QUOTED AL-IMADY AS SAYING AL-MARASHAR'S VISIT WAS AIMED AT BOOSTING ''COORDINATION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES IN LIGHT OF THE TALKS BETWEEN THE PRIME MINISTERS OF THE TWO STATES IN RIYADH LAST WEEK.''

THE SAUDI-SPONSORED RECONCILIATION TALKS BROUGHT AL-KASM AND JORDANIAN PRIME MINISTER ZEID RIFAI TOGETHER.

AFTER SATURDAY'S SESSION, SANA SAID ''BILATERAL ISSUES WERE DISCUSSED, WITH THE PURPOSE OF ACHIEVING MORE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES IN ECONOMIC, INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL FIELDS.''

IT SAID AL-KASM ''EXPRESSED SATISFACTION'' OVER THE MEETING.

END (MZ-LF-EB)

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RR319
Q I BAH042 01 888 ADR PSR 08 31
SYRIA-JORDAN NIGHT LEAD
EDS: TWO ARAB COUNTRIES CLOSER ON MIDEAST PEACE STRATEGY, NO PICKUP
RIYADH, SAUDI ARABIA (AP) - SYRIA AND JORDAN CONCLUDED A NEW ROUND OF RECONCILIATION TALKS HERE MONDAY, AND SAUDI ARABIAN CROWN PRINCE ABDULLAH SAID BOTH COUNTRIES HAD REAFFIRMED THEIR REJECTION OF ''PARTIAL OR UNILATERAL'' ARAB PEACE SETTLEMENTS WITH ISRAEL.
PRINCE ABDULLAH MADE THE STATEMENT AFTER THE SYRIAN PRIME MINISTER, ABDUL RAUF AL-KASM, AND HIS JORDANIAN COUNTERPART, ZAID AL-RIFAI, LEFT THE KINGDOM FOLLOWING TWO DAYS OF SAUDI-SPONSORED TALKS.
IT WAS THE SECOND SUCH SESSION SPONSORED BY SAUDI ARABIA, AND THE TWO COUNTRIES WERE EXPECTED THE CONTINUE THEIR DIALOGUE UNDER SAUDI SPONSORSHIP IN FUTURE MEETINGS IN AMMAN AND DAMASCUS. SYRIA BROKE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH JORDAN IN 1980.
PRINCE ABDULLAH ALSO HINTED OF AN APPARENT BREAKTHROUGH IN SAUDI EFFORTS TO EASE THE STRAIN IN SYRIA-IRAQI RELATIONS.
HIGH-LEVEL SECURITY ADVISERS FROM THE TWO COUNTRIES, HE SAID, HAD MET MONDAY ON THE SYRIAN-IRAQI BORDER. HE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THIS WOULD BE A ''HARBINGER OF CLEARING ATMOSPHERE AMONG THE BROTHERS.''
PRINCE ABDULLAH LEADS A PAN-ARAB COMMITTEE THAT WAS ENTRUSTED BY THE EMERGENCY ARAB SUMMIT IN CASABLANCA IN AUGUST TO TRY TO HEAL RIFTS BETWEEN SYRIA AND BOTH JORDAN AND IRAQ.
NO FURTHER DETAILS OF THE SYRIAN-IRAQI ENCOUNTER WERE DISCLOSED.
MORE (NM-EAP)
19100 21 10 85

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RR333
    Q I BAH044 01 888 PSR ADR 08 31
  RIYADH - SYRIA-JORDAN (NL) 2
  PRINCE ABDULLAH SAID THAT DURING THE LATEST SESSION BETWEEN SYRIA AND JORDAN, BOTH COUNTRIES AFFIRMED THEIR COMMITMENT TO PAN-ARAB RESOLUTIONS ON A SETTLEMENT OF THE ARAB-ISRAELI PROBLEM.
  IN PARTICULAR, HE SAID, THEY PLEDGED ADHERENCE TO THE ''FEZ PLAN,'' WHICH PROVIDES FOR A ''COMPREHENSIVE AND JUST PEACE IN THE FRAMEWORK OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE UNITED NATIONS.''
  THE PLAN, WHICH TAKES IT NAME FROM THE SITE OF THE LAST REGULAR ARAB SUMMIT IN FEZ, MOROCCO, IN 1982, HAD BEEN PROPOSED BY SAUDI ARABIA'S KING FAHD.
  PRINCE ABDULLAH'S STATEMENT SUGGESTED THAT SYRIA WAS SATISFIED THAT JORDAN'S KING HUSSEIN HAS CLOSED THE DOOR TO A SETTLEMENT WITH ISRAEL SIMILAR TO THE U.S.-BROKERED EGYPT-ISRAELI PEACE ACCORD.
  DAMASCUS STRONGLY OPPOSED THE EGYPTIAN ACCORD AND HAS BEEN SUSPICIOUS THAT HUSSEIN WAS SEEKING ANOTHER U.S.-BACKED PACT, THIS ONE COVERING THE ISRAELI-OCCUPIED WEST BANK AND GAZA STRIP.
  SYRIA ALSO FELL OUT WITH PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION CHAIRMAN YASSER ARAFAT IN 1982. ARAFAT LAST FEBRUARY JOINED HUSSEIN IN A JOINT PEACE ENDEAVOR.
  STATE-RUN RADIO JORDAN SAID THE LATET TALKS HAD BEEN HELD ''IN A CORDIAL AND POSITIVE ATMOSPHERE.''
  THE RADIO QUOTED RIFAI AS SAYING THAT JORDAN ''GIVES PRIORITY TO ITS STRATEGY FOR HONEST WORK IN SUPPORT OF ARAB SOLIDARITY.''
  MORE (NM-EAP)
 18500 21 10 85

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RR336
0 I BAH045 01 888 PSR ADR 08 31
RIYADH - SYRIA-JORDAN (WL) 3
THE JORDANIAN AND SYRIAN PRIME MINISTERS HAD HELD A FIRST ROUND OF SAUDI-SPONSORED TALKS IN MID-AUGUST. THEN IT HAD BEEN ANNOUNCED THAT THEY AGREED ON A SERIES OF STEPS TO ''CREATE A PROPITIOUS ATMOSPHERE FOR DEVELOPING RELATIONS.''
THEY LATER ENDED PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGNS AGAINST EACH OTHER, EASED TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS AND, OVER THE WEEKEND, REOPENED A RAIL CARGO LINE FROM DAMASCUS TO AMMAN.
SYRIA HAD BROKEN DIPLOMATIC TIES WITH JORDAN IN 1980 AFTER ACCUSING AMMAN OF HARBORING ANTI-SYRIAN OPERATIVES OF THE MOSLEM BROTHERHOOD ORGANIZATION.
RELATIONS WORSENED FURTHER WHEN SYRIA SIDED WITH PERSIAN IRAN AGAINST ARAB IRAQ IN THE GULF WAR, WHICH IS NOW IN ITS SIXTH YEAR.
SAUDI ARABIA, THE MIDDLE EAST OIL GIANT AND THE MAIN FINANCIAL BACKER OF SEVERAL ARAB PARTIES, HAS BEEN USING ITS CLOUT TO TRY TO UNIFY ARAB RANKS TO ENABLE A REGULAR PAN-ARAB SUMMIT CONFERENCE TO CONVENE.
SUCH A SUMMIT, TO BE HOSTED BY RIYADH, HAS NOT BEEN POSSIBLE SINCE 1982 BECAUSE OF WIDESPREAD DISAGREEMENTS IN THE ARAB WORLD.
PRINCE ABDULLAH'S COMMITTEE HAD VISITED BAGHDAD, DAMASCUS AND AMMAN EARLY IN AUGUST BUT HAD FAILED THEN TO SECURE ANY BREAKTHROUGH ON THE IRAQ-SYRIA DISPUTE. IRAQ AND SYRIA ARE RULED BY RIVAL WINGS OF THE ARAB BAATH SOCIALIST PARTY.
END (NM-EAP)
1858G 21 10 85

RA176

R I W0238 REPEAT 02 23 270 68
JORDAN-MEETING.0251
WITH LONDON - BRITAIN-PLO
GOVERNMENT SAYS PLO OFFICIAL BACKED OUT
AMMAN, JORDAN (AP) - THE JORDANIAN GOVERNMENT SAID MONDAY THAT A PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION OFFICIAL BACKED OUT OF AN AGREEMENT TO ISSUE A STATEMENT FOLLOWING A PLANNED MEETING WITH BRITAIN'S FOREIGN SECRETARY, CAUSING CANCELLATION OF THE EVENT.
KNOWLEDGEABLE SOURCES IN AMMAN, SPEAKING ON CONDITION OF ANONYMITY, IDENTIFIED THE PLO OFFICIAL WHO REFUSED TO GO ALONG WITH THE STATEMENT AS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER MOHAMMED MILHEM.
BRITISH PRIME MINISTER MARGARET THATCHER ANNOUNCED ON SEPT. 20 THAT FOREIGN SECRETARY GEOFFREY HOWE WOULD MEET A JORDANIAN-PALESTINIAN DELEGATION IN HOPES.OF ADVANCING KING HUSSEIN'S MIDDLE EAST PEACE INITIATIVE.
ALTHOUGH SHE INSISTED THE MEETING WOULD NOT SIGNIFY RECOGNITION OF THE PLO, MILHEM AND HIS FELLOW EXECTUVIE COMMITTEE MEMBER, ELIYA KHOURY, WOULD BE THE HIGHEST-RANKING PLO OFFICIALS EVER TO MEET WITH A TOP BRITISH CABINET OFFICIAL.
IN HER SEPTEMBER STATEMENT, MRS. THATCHER CALLED MILHEM AND KHOURY ''MEN OF PEACE.''
SHE SAID ''BOTH SUPPORT A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT'' OF THE CONFLICT WITH ISRAEL ''ON THE BASIS OF THE RELEVANT UNITED NATIONS RESOLUTIONS AND ARE OPPOSED TO TERRORISM AND VIOLENCE. I KNOW THEY WILL REAFFIRM THESE POSITONS DURING THEIR STAY IN LONDON.''
THE RESOLUTIONS APPARENTLY ARE SECURITY COUNCIL MEASURES 242 AND 338, WHICH IMPLY RECOGNITION OF ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO EXIST IN SECURE BOUNDARIES AND CALL FOR IT TO WITHDRAW FROM LAND OCCUPIED IN THE 1967 ARAB-ISRAELI WAR IN RETURN FOR PEACE.
MORE

21280 14 10 85

RR477
R I W0239 REPEAT 02 23 27 68
AMMAN - JORDAN-MEETING 2.0171
THE PLO HAS STEADFASTLY REFUSED TO ENDORSE THE TWO MEASURES IN ISOLATION FROM OTHER U.N. RESOLUTIONS, APPARENTLY INCLUDING THOSE WHICH CALL FOR A PALESTINIAN STATE AND OTHER PALESTINIAN RIGHTS.
THE JORDANIAN STATEMENT ISSUED MONDAY SAID MRS. THATCHER'S INVITATION "WAS ON THE BASIS THAT THE JOINT DELEGATION ISSUE A STATEMENT AFTER THE MEETING INCLUDING THE POINTS MENTIONED IN THE BRITISH PRIME MINISTER'S PRESS CONFERENCE."
"IN THE LIGHT OF CONSULTATIONS AMONG MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION, AN AGREEMENT WITH THE BRITISH SIDE WAS REACHED AND THE DELEGATION LEFT FOR LONDON ON THIS BASIS," SAID THE STATEMENT READ OVER STATE-RUN JORDAN RADIO.
"BUT, UNFORTUNATELY, ONE OF THE TWO PALESTINIAN MEMBERS IN THE JOINT DELEGATION SAID HE IS UNWILLING TO ASSOCIATE HIMSELF WITH THE AGREED-UPON STATEMENT. THEREFORE, THE BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY, IN THE LIGHT OF THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, CONCLUDED THAT THE MEETING CANNOT TAKE PLACE ON ITS DUE DATE," IT ADDED, IMPLYING THAT HTE MEETING MIGHT STILL TAKE PLACE IN THE FUTURE.
END

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W0044
R IBT 27-09 00252
233 10
JORDAN-SYRIA,0256<
ARAB NEIGHBORS AT LOGGERHEADS AS HUSSEIN PREPARES TO MEET REAGAN
AN AP NEWS ANALYSIS
BY JOHN RICE
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER
AMMAN, JORDAN (AP) - ON A WARM DAY IN MID-SEPTEMBER, JORDANIAN SOLDIERS SURROUNDED A HOUSE IN THE CAPITAL'S ASHRAFIEH REFUGEE CAMP AND FOUGHT A BRIEF GUNBATTLE WITH THOSE INSIDE.

AT THE END OF AN EXCHANGE THAT WOUNDED ONE SOLDIER, THE JORDANIANS SEIZED WEAPONS AND ARRESTED SEVERAL MEMBERS OF A RADICAL PALESTINIAN GROUP WHICH HAD SLIPPED INTO JORDAN FROM SYRIA, ACCORDING TO SOURCES IN AMMAN WHO INSISTED ON ANONYMITY.

IT WAS AN EVENT THAT VANISHED INTO OFFICIAL SECRECY. IT WAS NOT COVERED BY LOCAL NEWS OUTLETS. YET IT MAY HAVE INDICATED AS MUCH ABOUT JORDAN'S RELATIONS WITH SYRIA AS THE MORE PUBLICIZED RECONCILIATION MEETING BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES' PRIME MINISTERS THAT TOOK PLACE A FEW DAYS LATER, ON SEPT. 16, IN SAUDI ARABIA.

WHILE JORDAN AND SYRIA MAKE HALTING MOVES TOWARD RECONCILIATION, THEY REMAIN AT LOGGERHEADS OVER THE MOST BITTER ISSUES IN THE MIDDLE EAST: PEACE WITH ISRAEL; THE IRAN-IRAQ WAR; THE CONFLICT IN LEBANON; AND LEADERSHIP OF THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION.

WHEN KING HUSSEIN MEETS U.S. PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN ON MONDAY IN WASHINGTON, HE WILL HAVE AN EYE ON HIS RELATIONS WITH SYRIA AS WELL AS HIS PROBLEMS WITH ISRAEL.

THE KING SEEKS BOTH ARMS AND POLITICAL SUPPORT FOR HIS PEACE PROCESS FROM THE AMERICANS. HIS NORTHERN NEIGHBOR, SYRIA, PLAYS AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN BOTH ISSUES.

.MORE

27/09/06-04G

W0045
R IBT 27-09 00252
233 10
   AMMAN - JORDAN-SYRIA 2,0253<
    REAGAN ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS ARGUE THAT THE WEAPONS WOULD HELP PROTECT JORDAN FROM THE MUCH-LARGER AND BETTER-EQUIPPED SYRIAN FORCES, WHICH INVADED JORDAN BRIEFLY IN 1970 AND THREATENED IT IN 1980.

    JORDAN HAS ABOUT 73,000 MILITARY PERSONNEL, LITTLE MORE THAN 100 FIGHTER PLANES AND 580 TANKS, WITH ANOTHER 300 TANKS ON ORDER AS OF 1983.

    SYRIA HAS MORE THAN 220,000 PEOPLE IN ITS ARMED FORCES, WITH MORE THAN 450 FIGHTER PLANES AND 4,000 TANKS.

    PARADOXICALLY, THE KING'S PEACE PLAN COUNTS ON SYRIA TO TAKE PART IN A PEACE CONFERENCE INVOLVING JORDAN, THE PLO, LEBANON, ISRAEL AND THE FIVE PERMANENT MEMBERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL.

    THE AMMAN PLAN AGREED UPON FEB. 11 BY HUSSEIN AND PLO CHAIRMAN YASSER ARAFAT AIMS TO ESTABLISH PEACE WITH ISRAEL, RECOVER LANDS LOST IN THE 1967 ARAB-ISRAELI WAR AND CREATE A PALESTINIAN STATE CONFEDERATED WITH JORDAN.

    THE KING ARGUES THAT SYRIA CAN BLOCK ANY PEACE PLAN AND MUST BE INVOLVED IN ANY SOLUTION. IT ALSO HAS AN INTEREST SINCE ITS GOLAN HEIGHTS ARE AMONG THE ISRAELI-OCCUPIED AREAS.

    SYRIAN INVOLVEMENT WOULD ALSO HELP PROTECT HUSSEIN FROM ALLEGATIONS OF SELLING OUT THE ARAB CAUSE IN A PEACE THAT WOULD SURRENDER CLAIMS TO MOST OF THE LAND NOW HELD BY ISRAEL.

    SYRIA SPONSORS MOST OF THE REBEL PLO FACTIONS OPPOSED TO HUSSEIN'S PEACE EFFORT AND ITSELF STRONGLY OPPOSES THE PLAN, CLAIMING IT IS A U.S.-SPONSORED PROPOSAL TO GIVE JORDAN HEGEMONY OVER THE PALESTINIAN HOMELAND.

    .MORE

27/09/06-05G

W0046
R IBT 27-09 00206
233 10
AMMAN - JORDAN-SYRIA 3,0207<
@@SYRIA IS DETERMINED TO FOIL THE AMMAN AGREEMENT,'' SYRIAN VICE PRESIDENT ABDUL-HALIM KHADDAM SAID LAST WEEK TO A RALLY OF THE RULING BAATH PARTY IN DAMASCUS.

JUST AS HUSSEIN HOPES THE UNITED STATES WILL CONVINCE ISRAEL TO ACCEPT HIS PLAN, JORDANIAN OFFICIALS HOPE THE SOVIET UNION MIGHT NUDGE ITS SYRIAN ALLY TO DO THE SAME.

BUT THE SOVIET UNION HAS CRITICIZED ASPECTS OF THE FEB. 11 PLAN AND JORDANIAN AND PLO OFFICIALS HAVE ACCUSED SYRIA OF MASTERMINDING RECENT ATTACKS ON JORDANIAN DIPLOMATS AND AIRLINE OFFICES ABROAD.

@@IF THINGS GO WELL IN WASHINGTON, AND THE PEACE PROCESS STARTS MOVING, THE SYRIANS WILL CLAM UP AGAIN ON MOVES TOWARD JORDAN,'' SAID A WESTERN DIPLOMAT IN AMMAN.

@@ON THE OTHER HAND, IF THE PEACE PROCESS REMAINS STALLED ... I THINK THE SYRIANS MIGHT BE WILLING TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH JORDAN,'' HE ADDED, SPEAKING ON CONDITION OF ANONYMITY.

JORDAN HAS BEEN SEEKING BETTER RELATIONS WITH SYRIA FOR MONTHS, PUBLICIZING TRADE AND COMMERCIAL AGREEMENTS AND PLANS TO EASE THE NOW DIFFICULT BORDER CROSSINGS.

THE JORDANIAN AND SYRIAN PRIME MINISTERS ARE TO MEET AGAIN IN OCTOBER IN SAUDI ARABIA TO CONTINUE THE DISCUSSIONS OPENED THIS MONTH.

END

27/09/06-06G

AR269

R I BE741 01 888 PSR ADR

SYRIA-RECONCILIATION

KHADDAM ATTACKS JORDANIAN-PALESTINIAN PEACE MOVES

DAMASCUS, SYRIA (AP) - VICE PRESIDENT ABDUL-HALIM KHADDAM SATURDAY REAFFIRMED SYRIA'S DETERMINATION TO WRECK A PALESTINIAN-JORDANIAN MIDDLE EAST PEACE INITIATIVE DESPITE RECENT RAPPROCHEMENT BETWEEN DAMASCUS AND AMMAN.

''SYRIA IS DETERMINED TO FOIL THE AMMAN AGREEMENT,'' THE SYRIAN ARAB NEWS AGENCY QUOTED KHADDAM AS TELLING A RULING BAATH PARTY RALLY IN DAMASCUS.

IT WAS THE FIRST ATTACK BY SYRIAN OFFICIALS AGAINST THE JORDANIAN-PALESTINIAN MOVE SINCE JORDANIAN AND SYRIAN OFFICIALS HELD TWO DAYS OF RECONCILIATION TALKS UNDER SAUDI ARABIAN AUSPICES. THE TALKS ENDED TUESDAY.

SYRIA, THE SOVIET UNION'S MAIN MIDDLE EAST ALLY, OPPOSES THE FEB.11 AMMAN ACCORD SIGNED BY JORDAN'S KING HUSSEIN AND PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION CHAIRMAN YASSER ARAFAT. SYRIA MAINTAINS THE PEACE STRATEGY WAS U.S.-INFLUENCED.

''SYRIAN STANDS ARE FIRM AND PERMANENT,'' KHADDAM WAS QUOTED AS SAYING.

SANA SAID PRIME MINISTER ABDEL-RAOUF AL-KASM ATTENDED THE RALLY ALONG WITH MEMBERS OF THE BAATH'S REGIONAL COMMAND AND CENTRAL COMMITTEE AS WELL AS PARTY PROVINCIAL LEADERS.

''WE AIM TO CONFRONT THE IMPERIALIST AND ZIONIST SCHEMES SEEKING TO IMPOSE THEIR HEGEMONY ON OUR AREA,'' HE SAID.

''WE SHALL CONTINUE STRUGGLING IN EVERY POSSIBLE WAY AGAINST THE CAMP DAVID PROCESS AND TO CONFRONT THE AMMAN AGREEMENT WHICH JEOPARDIZES THE ARAB CAUSE AND CONSTITUTES AN ELEMENT OF THE CAMP DAVID PROCESS,'' KHADDAM SAID.

MORE (SG-LF-EB)

1600G 21 09 85

RR272

R I BE742 01 888 PSR ADR

DAMASCUS - SYRIA-RECONCILIATION 2

THE CAMP DAVID PROCESS REFERS TO AMERICAN-SPONSORED PEACE EFFORTS HELD IN THE UNITED STATES IN 1978 WHICH LED TO A PEACE TREATY BETWEEN ISRAEL AND EGYPT.

THE ANIMOSITY BETWEEN SYRIA AND JORDAN, HOWEVER, DATES BACK TO 1980.

TUESDAY'S MEETING IN THE SAUDI PORT OF JIDDA BETWEEN JORDAN'S PRIME MINISTER, ZAID AL-RIFAI, AND SYRIA'S AL-KASM MARKED THE FIRST HIGH-LEVEL BREAKTHROUGH IN RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO ARAB NEIGHBORS.

DAMASCUS SEVERED LINKS FIVE YEARS AGO AFTER ACCUSING AMMAN OF HARBORING ANTI-SYRIAN MOSLEM BROTHERHOOD ACTIVISTS.

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TWO COUNTRIES HAD AGREED TO MEET AGAIN IN OCTOBER.

END (SG-LF-EB)

16036 21 09 85

RR264
Q I BAH011 01 888 ADR PSR
RAPPROCHEMENT
IN OFFING BETWEEN SYRIA AND JORDAN UNDER SAUDI AUSPICES
BY ABDULLAH NASSER AL-SHEHRI
JIDDA, SAUDI ARABIA (AP) - SAUDI ARABIAN CROWN PRINCE ABDULLAH SPONSORED HIGH-LEVEL RECCONCILIATION TALKS BETWEEN SYRIA AND JORDAN HERE MONDAY, IN A NEW BID TO EASE TENSION BETWEEN THE TWO NEIGHBORING ARAB POWERS AND FORMULATE A UNIFIED POSITION ON NEGOTIATING PEACE WITH ISRAEL.

THE JORDANIAN SIDE WAS LED BY PRIME MINISTER ZAID AL-RIFAI AND THE SYRIAN BY PREMIER ABDUL-RAUF AL-KASM, WITH THE SAUDI CROWN PRINCE PRESIDING.

ARAB LEAGUE SECRETARY-GENERAL CHADLI KLIBI, SYRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER FAROUK AL-SHARAA, JORDANIAN CHIEF OF THE ROYAL COURT MARWAN QASSEM, AND OTHER SAUDI HIGH OFFICIALS ATTENDED THE OPENING SESSION OF THE TWO-DAY RAPPROCHEMENT TALKS.

PRINCE ABDULLAH CHAIRED THE SESSION IN HIS CAPACITY AS HEAD OF AN ARAB LEAGUE COMMITTEE ON ''PURIFYING THE ARAB POLITICAL CLIMATE.'' THE COMMITTEE WAS CREATED BY THE ARAB SUMMIT CONFERENCE, HELD IN CASABLANCA, MOROCCO, LAST AUGUST.

THE SAUDIS IMPOSED A TIGHT LID OF SECRECY ON THE TALKS, HELD AT THE ORNATE, RED SEA-SIDE CONFERENCE PALACE, WHICH WAS INACCESSIBLE TO REPORTERS.

''A RAPPROCHEMENT BETWEEN JORDAN AND SYRIA WOULD BE A HEARTENING ACCOMPLISHMENT ON FOUR FRONTS--TO BREAK THE FIVE-YEAR-OLD IMPASSE BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, PAVE THE ROAD FOR SYRIAN-IRAQI RECONCILIATION, USE THE SYRIAN LINKS WITH TEHRAN TO END THE IRAQ-IRAN WAR, AND OPEN NEW VISTAS FOR NEGOTIATIONS TOWARD A COMPREHENSIVE PEACE BETWEEN THE ARABS AND ISRAEL,'' COMMENTED ONE ARAB DIPLOMAT, WHO REFUSED TO BE IDENTIFIED.

(MORE/AM/ANS/NWA)
1532G 16 09 85

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RR277
Q I BAH013 01 888 ADR PSR
JIDDA - RAPPROCHEMENT 2
SAUDI ARABIA, THE MIDDLE EAST OIL GIANT AND THE MAIN FINANCIAL BACKER OF BOTH SYRIA AND JORDAN, WAS EXPECTED TO USE ITS CLOUT TO TURN THE TWO HITHERTO BICKERING NEIGHBORS INTO A UNITED FRONT IN THE QUEST FOR ''AN HONORABLE PEACE'' WITH ISRAEL.
SYRIA HAS OPENLY RESENTED A PROJECTED, U.S.-SPONSORED JOINT PEACE BID WITH ISRAEL BY JORDAN AND THE PALESTINIAN LIBERATION ORGANIZATION (PLO).
THE SYRIANS, WHO LEAD THE ARAB REJECTION OF THE U.S.-ARRANGED EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI PEACE ACCORD, HAVE EXPRESSED A WILLINGNESS TO NORMALIZE THEIR TIES WITH JORDAN IF THE AMMAN GOVERNMENT OF KING HUSSEIN WERE TO FOREGO THE PEACE BID WITH ISRAEL.
THE EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI PEACE IN 1979 CULMINATED IN ISRAEL'S WITHDRAWAL FROM EGYPT'S SINAI DESERT AFTER MORE THAN A DECADE OF OCCUPATION.
JORDAN AND THE PLO HOPE TO REGAIN THE WEST BANK OF JORDAN AND THE GAZA STRIP FROM ISRAEL THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS. THE SYRIANS HAVE YET TO REGAIN THE GOLAN HEIGHTS FROM THE ISRAELIS.
SYRIA BROKE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH JORDAN IN 1980, WHEN THE DAMASCUS GOVERNMENT ACCUSED THE JORDANIANS OF HARBORING OPERATIVES OF THE SYRIAN MOSLEM BROTHERHOOD FUNDAMENTALIST ORGANIZATION WHO HAD VOWED TO TOPPLE THE SYRIAN REGIME OF PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD.
THE GULF WAR BROKE OUT IN THE SAME YEAR, WHEN JORDAN SIDED WITH ARAB IRAQ AND SYRIA SUPPORTED PERSIAN IRAN.
ARAB COMMENTATORS SAID THE SAUDIS WERE HOPEFUL THE JORDAN-SYRIA RAPPROCHEMENT WILL BRING DAMASCUS CLOSER TO BAGHDAD AND HELP ARRANGE A NEGOTIATED END TO THE FIVE-YEAR-OLD WAR BETWEEN IRAN AND IRAQ.
(MORE/AM/ANS/NM)
1558G 16 09 85

BB

RR344
DE I BAH023 01 888 ADR PSR
RAPPROCHEMENT SUBSTITUTE
JIDDA - RAPPROCHEMENT 2 (BAH013) TO CLARIFY, SUB FOLLOWING
FOR SECOND GRAF:
SYRIA HAS OPENLY RESENTED EFFORTS BY JORDAN AND THE PALESTINE
LIBERATION ORGANIZATION (PLO) TO TALK THE U.S. INTO SPONSORING
A NEW MIDEAST PEACE DRIVE WITH ISRAEL.
THE SYRIANS 3RD GRAF BAH013
17560 16 09 85

BB

RR303
Q I BAH017 01 888 ADR PSR
JIDDA - RAPPROCHEMENT 3
PRINCE ABDULLAH AND MEMBERS OF HIS COMMITTEE VISITED DAMASCUS, AMMAN AND BAGHDAD LAST WEEK. ARAB DIPLOMATS HERE SAID THE PRINCE TRIED WITHOUT SUCCESS TO ARRANGE A SIMILAR RAPPROCHEMENT BETWEEN THE SYRIANS AND THE IRAQIS.
THE IRAQIS WERE EXPECTED TO ATTEND THE JIDDA PARLEY BUT FOR UNKNOWN REASONS HAVE FAILED TO SHOW UP.
ABDULLAH'S COMMITTEE INCLUDES KLIBI AND TUNISIAN PRIME MINISTER MOHAMED MZALI.
SYRIA AND IRAQ ARE RULED BY RIVAL WINGS OF THE ARAB SOCIALIST BAATH PARTY.
''WHEN IT COMES TO TRYING TO HORMONIZE POSITIONS ON PEACE WITH ISRAEL, A SYRIAN-JORDANIAN RAPPROCHEMENT IS EASIER SAID THAN DONE,'' SAID THE ARAB DIPLOMAT. ''THE SYRIANS ARE NOT LIKELY TO BUDGE FROM THEIR INSISTENCE THAT JORDAN AND THE PLO DROP THEIR PLANS FOR TALKS WITH THE ISRAELIS UNDER AN AMERICAN UMBRELLA. THE SYRIANS HAVE UNDERSCORED THEIR INSISTENCE THAT THE FEZ PLANE BE THE BASIS FOR A COMPREHENSIVE PEACE BETWEEN THE ARABS AND ISRAEL.''
HE WAS ALLUDING TO THE FEZ PLAN, PUT FORWARD BY THE ARAB SUMMIT CONFERENCE IN MOROCCO IN SEPTEMBER 1982. THE PLAN CALLS MAINLY FOR ISRAEL TO VACATE ALL ARAB TERRITORY SEIZED DURING THE 1967 MIDEAST WAR, AN INDENEPDENT STATE FOR THE PALESTINIANS IN THE WEST BANK AND GAZA WITH THE ARAB SECTOR OF JERUSALEM AS ITS CAPITAL, IN RETURN FOR AN ARAB-WIDE RECOGNITION OF ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO EXIST.
(MORE/AM/ANS/NM)
16430 16 09 85

BB

RR310
Q I BAH018 01 888 ADR PSR
JIDDA - RAPPROCHEMENT 4
ASIDE FROM THE RAPPRCHEMENT, THE SAUDIS ARE KNOWN TO BE TRYING TO TALK THE SYRIANS INTO DROPPING THEIR STATED BOYCOTT OF THE PAN-ARAB SUMMIT CONFERENCE, TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER IN RIYADH, THE SAUDI CAPITAL.
SYRIA, ALONG WITH SOUTH YEMEN, ALGERIA, LIBYA AND LEBANON BOYCOTTED THE CASABLANCA SUMMIT LAST AUGUST.
SYRIAN OFFICIALS HAVE SAID THAT A RECONCILIATION WITH JORDAN HINGES ON AVOIDING AN EGYPTIAN-STYLE ''SEPARATE PEACE'' WITH ISRAEL, AND DEMANDED THAT THE PROJECTED SUMMIT ELIMINATE FROM ITS AGENDA ANY DISCUSSIONS OF RETURNING EGYPT TO THE ARAB FOLD.
OF THE ARAB LEAGUE 21 MEMBER COUNTRIES 17 HAVE BEEN BOYCOTTING EGYPT BECAUSE OF ITS PEACE TREATY LINKS WITH ISRAEL.
KNOWLEDGEABLE SAUDI OFFICIALS TOLD THE ASSOCIATED PRESS THAT KING HUSSEIN OF JORDAN WILL HOLD CONSULTATION TALKS WITH SAUDI KING FAHD HERE SOMETIME NEXT WEEK, AHEAD OF HIS PLANNED MIDEAST PEACE

TALKS IN WITH PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN IN WASHINGTON.
(END/AM/NM)
16576 16 09 85

BB

RR197
Q H529 01 888
SYRIA-JORDAN
GOVERNMENT PLEDGES TO FOIL ARAFAT-HUSSEIN ACCORD
DAMASCUS, SYRIA (AP) - THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT VOWED AT ITS WEEKLY MEETING MONDAY TO FOIL A JOINT MIDDLE EAST PEACE FORMULA RECENTLY REACHED BY KING HUSSEIN OF JORDAN AND PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION CHAIRMAN YASSER ARAFAT.

THE OFFICIAL SYRIAN ARAB NEWS AGENCY SAID THAT THE CABINET UNDER PRIME MINISTER ABDE-RAOUF AL-KASM DECIDED TO ''MAKE THE FOILING OF THE ARAFAT-HUSSEIN ACCORD ITS OFFICIAL POLICY.''

SANA STRESSED THAT THE FATE OF THE ACCORD SIGNED IN AMMAN ON FEB. 11 WILL BE THE SAME AS THAT OF THE MAY 17, 1983, LEBANESE-ISRAELI TROOP WITHDRAWAL AGREEMENT, WHICH LEBANON WAS FORCED TO ABROGATE LAST MARCH UNDER SYRIAN PRESSURE.

THE JORDAN-PLO FORMULA CALLS FOR AN ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM ALL TERRITORIES IT OCCUPIED IN THE JUNE 1967 WAR IN RETURN FOR PEACE. IT ALSO CONTAINS A CALL FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ALL UNITED NATIONS RESOLUTIONS CONCERNED WITH THE 37-YEAR-OLD ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT, INCLUDING SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 242.

THIS RESOLUTION HAD BEEN REJECTED BY ARAFAT'S PLO BECAUSE IT TREATED THE PALESTINIAN QUESTION AS ONE OF REFUGEES, IGNORING THEIR QUEST FOR A HOMELAND, AND RECOGNIZED THE STATE OF ISRAEL. BUT PRE-1967 RESOLUTIONS, WHICH THE NEW PEACE FORMULA WANTS IMPLEMENTED, GRANTED THE PALESTINIANS A STATE ON THE WEST BANK AND GAZA STRIP.

BUT SYRIA, WHICH IS AT ODDS WITH BOTH THE JORDANIAN MONARCH AND THE PLO CHIEF, HAS REPEATEDLY SAID PEACE WITH ISRAEL WAS IMPOSSIBLE AND WHAT THE ARABS SHOULD DO IS BUILD UP THEIR MILITARY TO CONFRONT ISRAEL.

SYRIAN-JORDANIAN TENSIONS HAVE INCREASED IN THE PAST TWO WEEKS ON THE HEELS OF THE AGREEMENT WITH ARAFAT. FRONTPAGE EDITORIALS BY SYRIA'S GOVERNMENT NEWSPAPERS AND COMMENTARIES BY ITS STATE RADIO HAVE LABELED ARAFAT AND KING HUSSEIN ''TRAITORS.''

END (LF-MZ)

13560 25 02 85

ØØ

RR314
R W0178 233
LEAD SYRIA-JORDAN:0270
EDS: ~~UPDATES WITH~~ SANA WITHDRAWAL OF STORY= NO PICKUP
DAMASCUS, SYRIA (AP) - SYRIA'S HOUSE SPEAKER SAID SUNDAY THAT THE JOINT APPROACH FOR A MIDDLE EAST PEACE REACHED BY JORDAN'S KING HUSSEIN AND PLO CHAIRMAN YASSER ARAFAT ''JEOPARDIZES ARAB RIGHTS'' AND CANNOT HOLD UP.

''THE HUSSEIN-ARAFAT ACCORD WILL MEET THE SAME FATE AS THE MAY 17 AGREEMENT,'' SAID MAHMOUD ZOUBI, HOUSE SPEAKER IN SYRIA'S PARLIAMENT.

ZOUBI REFERRED TO THE MAY 17, 1983, TROOP WITHDRAWAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN ISRAEL AND LEBANON, WHICH WAS ABROGATED BY LEBANON LAST MARCH. HE MADE THE STATEMENT TO A VISITING SPANISH PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION.

HE ADDED THAT ACCORD BETWEEN HUSSEIN AND THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION ''JEOPARDIZES ARAB RIGHTS ... ISRAEL HAS NO LAND OR PEACE TO GIVE.''

THE GOVERNMENT'S OFFICIAL SYRIAN ARAB NEWS AGENCY ALSO ISSUED A COMMENTARY ACCUSING JORDAN OF TRYING TO STIR UP TROUBLE ALONG THE COUNTRIES' JOINT BORDER AND WARNING ''SYRIA IS CAPABLE OF DETERRING ANY PROVOCATION COMING FROM ANY SOURCE.''

BUT THE COMMENTARY FOLLOWED A REPORT THAT SANA LATER ORDERED ''CANCELLED'' THAT SAID GUNMEN HAD CROSSED INTO SYRIA FROM JORDAN AND ATTACKED A CIVILIAN VEHICLE, KILLING TWO OF ITS OCCUPANTS AND WOUNDING ONE. THERE WAS NO EXPLANATION FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE ITEM.

THE SANA COMMENTARY ACCUSED JORDANIAN AUTHORITIES ''OF DELIBERATELY PERPETRATING THIS CRIMINAL ACT'' AND SAID SUCH ACTION WOULD NOT DIVERT ATTENTION FROM ''THE CHEAP AND DIRTY CONSPIRACY BEING FOMENTED BY THE RULERS OF AMMAN,'' JORDAN'S CAPITAL.

SYRIA'S GOVERNMENT CONTROLLED NEWSPAPERS ON SUNDAY ALSO ACCUSED PLO CHAIRMAN ARAFAT OF HAVING FORMED ''TERRORIST SQUADS ... IN ORDER TO RESORT TO ACTS OF TERRORISM AGAINST SYRIA.''

NO PICKUP

2006G 24 02 85

BB

Syria-Jordan

RR229
0 H516
01 888
MIDDLE EAST
LEADERS IN DAMASCUS, BEIRUT DISCUSS MIDDLE EAST PROSPECTS
BEIRUT, LEBANON (AP) - SYRIAN OFFICIALS MET IN DAMASCUS SUNDAY WITH LEADERS OF OTHER ARAB NATIONS OPPOSED TO JORDAN'S RENEWED TIES WITH EGYPT, WHILE SOURCES IN BEIRUT SAID SYRIAN AND ISRAELI VIEWS ON WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN FORCES FROM LEBANON REMAINED FAR APART.

A KEY DIFFERENCE BLOCKING A PLAN FOR WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN TROOPS FROM LEBANON APPEARED TO BE OPPOSING VIEWS ON WHETHER LEBANON'S ARMY OR AN ISRAELI-BACKED MILITIA WOULD TAKE UP POSTS VACATED BY ISRAEL'S ARMY.

IN DAMASCUS, PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD, WHOSE GOVERNMENT CONDEMNED JORDAN'S RENEWAL OF TIES WITH EGYPT, MET WITH BRIG. GEN BOUBAKR YOUNES, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF ARMED FORCES IN LIBYA, THE OTHER MOST OUTSPOKEN FOE OF JORDAN'S MOVE LAST TUESDAY.

MOHAMMED SHARIF MASSAEDIYYEH, SECRETARY OF THE RULING PARTY IN ALGERIA, ALSO ARRIVED IN DAMASCUS SUNDAY FOR TALKS WITH SYRIAN OFFICIALS. ALGERIA HAS CRITICIZED JORDAN'S MOVE, TOO, THOUGH NOT AS STRONGLY AS SYRIA AND LIBYA.

THE OFFICIAL SYRIAN ARAB NEWS AGENCY SAID YOUNES MET WITH ASSAD AND LT. GEN. MUSTAFA TLASS, SYRIAN'S DEFENSE MINISTER, BUT DID NOT OUTLINE WHAT WAS SAID AT THE SESSION. THERE WAS ALSO NO ANNOUNCEMENT OF MASSAEDIYYEH'S SCHEDULED MEETINGS.

LIBYA'S GOVERNMENT AND THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT NEWSPAPER ''AL-THAWRA'' BOTH CALLED FOR AN ARAB BOYCOTT OF JORDAN FOR BECOMING THE FIRST ARAB GOVERNMENT TO RENEW TIES WITH EGYPT. THE LINKS WERE SEVERED WHEN EGYPT SIGNED THE 1978 U.S.-SPONSORED CAMP DAVID ACCORDS, WHICH LED TO ITS PEACE TREATY WITH ISRAEL THE FOLLOWING YEAR.

THE MEETINGS IN DAMASCUS CAME AS ISRAEL'S GOVERNMENT SAID SUNDAY IT HOPED THE RESUMPTION OF EGYPTIAN-JORDANIAN RELATIONS ''WILL CONTRIBUTE TO A RENEWAL OF THE PEACE PROCESS IN THE MIDDLE EAST.''

THEY ALSO FOLLOW A NINE-DAY VISIT TO THE MIDDLE EAST IN WHICH ASSISTANT U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE RICHARD MURPHY APPARENTLY TRIED TO ASSESS THE PROSPECTS FOR A NEW U.S. DIPLOMATIC EFFORT CONCERNING LEBANON, AND POSSIBLY ONE ON WIDER MIDDLE EAST PROBLEMS.

MORE (GGL-SG)

1543G 30 09 84

BB

RR241
Q H518
01 888
BEIRUT - MIDDLE EAST 2
MURPHY MADE NO PUBLIC STATEMENTS DURING HIS MIDDLE EAST TOUR, WHICH ENDED SATURDAY AND FOLLOWED AND ISRAELI CALL FOR A NEW U.S. MEDIATION EFFORT WITH SYRIA FOR SECURITY GUARANTEES THAT WOULD ALLOW ISRAELI FORCES TO WITHDRAW FROM SOUTH LEBANON.
THE INDEPENDENT BEIRUT NEWSPAPER AN-NAHAR ON SUNDAY LISTED A SERIES OF STEPS THAT IT SAID CONSTITUTED A PLAN OUTLINED BY MURPHY FOR WITHDRAWAL OF ISRAELI FORCES FROM LEBANON. HOWEVER, A GOVERNMENT SOURCE, WHO ASKED NOT TO BE IDENTIFIED, SAID MOST OF THE IDEAS WERE ISRAEL'S AND THAT SYRIA AND LEBANON HAD OPPOSING VIEWS.
LEBANON'S STATE RADIO BROADCAST THE SAME ''MURPHY PLAN,'' BUT SAID THERE WAS NO CONFIRMATION IT WAS AN OFFICIAL PROPOSAL.
AN-NAHAR'S LIST INCLUDED PROPOSALS THAT ISRAEL WITHDRAW ITS FORCES FROM LEBANON WITHOUT A SIMULTANEOUS PULLOUT OF SYRIAN FORCES, THAT THE ISRAELI-BACKED ''SOUTH LEBANON ARMY'' MILITIA TAKE UP THE POSTS VACATED BY THE ISRAELIS, AND THAT LEBANON NOT SEND ITS ARMY INTO SOUTH LEBANON WITHOUT PRIOR ISRAELI APPROVAL.
ON SUNDAY, ISRAELI CABINET SECRETARY YOSSI BEILIN CONFIRMED THAT ISRAEL WAS DROPPING ITS LONG-HELD DEMAND FOR A SIMULTANEOUS PULLOUT BY SYRIAN FORCES FROM LEBANON'S NORTH AND EAST. BEILIN ALSO SAID, HOWEVER, THAT THE 2,100-MAN ''SOUTH LEBANON ARMY'' SHOULD BE INVOLVED IN SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS FOR ISRAEL'S BORDER WITH LEBANON.
ACCORDING TO THE SOURCES HERE, THE ISRAELI POSITION CONFLICTS WITH THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT'S VIEW THAT ITS ARMY SHOULD TAKE OVER SECURITY DUTIES IN THE THIRD OF THE COUNTRY NOW OCCUPIED BY ISRAEL.
LEBANESE PRIME MINISTER RASHID KARAMI SAID SATURDAY BEFORE LEAVING FOR NEW YORK TO ADDRESS THE U.N. GENERAL ASSEMBLY THAT LEBANON'S ARMY WAS ''PREPARED AND CAPABLE OF CARRYING OUT THE DUTY SO AS TO REMOVE EVERY EXCUSE ISRAEL IS USING FOR ITS CONTINUED OCCUPATION.''
MORE (GGL-EAP)

16086 30 09 84

BB

RR245
Q H519
01 888
BEIRUT - MIDDLE EAST 3
THE PRIVATE CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY ALSO SAID IN ITS WEEKEND REPORT THAT SYRIA OBJECTED TO ANY ROLE FOR THE ''SOUTH LEBANON ARMY'' MILITIA AND DEMANDED AN END TO ISRAEL'S ALMOST DAILY RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHTS OVER LEBANON.
THE PLAN OUTLINED IN AN-NAHAR ALSO CALLED FOR A SYRIAN COMMITMENT NOT TO FACILITATE PALESTINIAN GUERRILLA ATTACKS ON ISRAEL FROM LEBANON AND FOR THE EXPANSION OF THE U.N. INTERIM FORCE IN LEBAN
ON
TO HELP POLICE THE SOUTH.
BOTH KARAMI AND BEILIN, THE ISRAELI CABINET SPOKESMAN, FAVORABLY MENTIONED AN EXPANSION OF UNIFIL, WHICH WAS SENT INTO SOUTHERN LEBANON IN 1978 FOLLOWING AN EARLIER ISRAELI OCCUPATION OF THE AREA.
THE CURRENT ISRAELI OCCUPATION HAS LASTED SINCE ISRAEL'S JUNE 1982 INVASION TO DRIVE THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION OUT OF LEBANON'S SOUTH. SYRIA HAS HAD TROOPS IN THE COUNTRY SINCE 1976 WHEN IT CAME IN TO TRY TO END THE OPENING ROUNDS OF LEBANON'S CIVIL WAR.
THE GOVERNMENT SOURCES HERE SAID SUNDAY THAT SYRIA OBJECTED TO ANY USE OF U.N. TROOPS ON ITS OWN BORDER WITH LEBANON AND INSISTED THAT ANY AGREEMENT WITH ISRAEL BE LIMITED TO ''SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS ONLY.''
SYRIA'S OBJECTION TO AN EARLIER U.S. MEDIATED ISRAELI-LEBANON TROOP WITHDRAWAL AGREEMENT WAS BASED IN PART ON ITS COMPLAINT THAT THE MAY 1983 PACT INCLUDED POLITICAL STEPS THAT COULD LEAD TO A PEACE TREATY BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.
SYRIA'S BACKING FOR LEBANESE DRUSE AND SHIITE MOSLEM MILITIAS IN CIVIL WAR FIGHTING SINCE SEPTEMBER 1983 FORCED THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT TO CANCEL THE 1983 PACT, ENDING THE U.S. MARINE ROLE HERE AND GIVING SYRIA RENEWED INFLUENCE IN ITS NEIGHBORING COUNTRY.
END (GGL-ERP)

16186 30 09 84

R0224
R H527 07 16 04
SYRIA-JORDAN
MILITARY ATTACHES WITHDRAWN
DAMASCUS, SYRIA (AP) -- SYRIA DECIDED SATURDAY TO CALL HOME THE MILITARY ATTACHE IN AMMAN FOLLOWING JORDAN+S WITHDRAWAL OF ITS MILITARY ATTACHE FROM DAMASCUS, A SYRIAN GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN, WHO DECLINED TO BE NAMED, SAID +THIS MEASURE IS TAKEN IN RECIPROCITY. IT HAS NO POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE. IT IS A FORMAL PROCEDURE ONLY.+

ALL OTHER EMBASSY PERSONNEL IN THE TWO CAPITALS WILL CONTINUE FUNCTIONING NORMALLY, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

RELATIONS BETWEEN WESTERN-ORIENTED JORDAN AND PRO-SOVIET SYRIA HAVE BEEN TENSE SINCE THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT CHARGED NEARLY 18 MONTHS AGO THAT KING HUSSEIN+S REGIME IN JORDAN HAD AIDED AND ABETED UNDERGROUND MOSLEM BROTHERHOOD GUERRILLAS IN SYRIA.

(END)
1700G 02 27 82

QQ

R0385

R T035 04 07 27 16

JORDAN-SYRIA(LD ASKT)(BEIRUT NOTE)

ISRAEL RADIO SAYS SYRIAN DIPLOMATS EXPELLED FROM JORDAN

TEL AVIV, ISRAEL(AP)--JORDAN HAS ORDERED SYRIAN DIPLOMATS IN AMMAN TO LEAVE JORDAN IMMEDIATELY, ISRAEL RADIO REPORTED TUESDAY.

THE REPORT, WHICH CITED NO SOURCES, SAID NO OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE WAS ISSUED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE JORDANIAN DECISION TO EXPEL THE SYRIAN OFFICIALS.

RELATIONS BETWEEN SYRIA AND JORDAN'S KING HUSSEIN HAVE BEEN TENSE RECENTLY BECAUSE OF JORDANIAN SUPPORT OF IRAQ -- SYRIA'S BITTER RIVAL -- IN ITS WAR IRAN.

SYRIA ALSO HAS SAID JORDAN WAS FOMENTING UNREST IN SYRIA. (END)

(GREBLER)

22190 02 23 82

R0196
Q H527 01 04 16
SYRIA-JORDAN
SYRIA SUMMONS JORDANIAN DIPLOMAT, COMPLAINS ABOUT CHARGES
DAMASCUS, SYRIA (AP) -- A FRESH ACCUSATION FLEW BETWEEN RIVAL NEIGHBORS SYRIA AND JORDAN MONDAY WHEN THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT SUMMONED A ARANKING JORDANIAN DIPLOMAT TO COMPLAIN HIS GOVERNMENT WRONGLY ACCUSED SYRIA OF TERRORISM.
SYRIA'S DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER, NASSER QADDOUR, CALLED JORDANIAN CHARGE D'AFFAIRES WALID AL-FARAJ TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY WHERE OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT SOURCES SAID THE JORDANIAN WAS HANDED A FORMAL LETTER OF COMPLAINT.
THE SOURCES DESCRIBED THE ENCOUNTER AS A ''FURTHER SERIOUS DETERIORATION IN THE RELATIONS BETWEEN SYRIA AND JORDAN.'' THE MIDLE EAST NEIGHBORS WHO ALMOST WENT TO WAR IN NOVEMBER OF 1980 HAVE TRADED ACCUSATIONS OF TERRORISM AGAINST ONE ANOTHER OVER THE PAST TWO WEEKS.
JORDAN BLAMED SYRIAN INTELLIGENCE IN THE JAN. 11 BOMB EXPLOSION AT A GROCERY STORE IN THE JORDANIAN CAPITAL, AMMAN, THAT WOUNDED SIX PEOPLE. SYRIA NEVER RESPONDED TO THE CHARGE UNTIL MONDAY WHEN SYRIAN SOURCES TOLD THE ASSOCIATED PRESS THAT FOREIGN MINISTRY DEPUTY QADDOUR TOLD AL-FARAJ THE SYRIANS IN FACT HAD PROOF THAT IT WAS JORDANIAN INTELLIGENCE THAT WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE GROCERY BOMBING.
THE SOURCES QUOTED THE LETTER OF COMPLAINT AS SAYING, ''THE GOVERNMENT OF SYRIA IS WILLING TO RECEIVE ANY JORDANIAN POPULAR DELEGATION IN ORDER TO PUT AT ITS DISPOSAL THE PROOF THAT CONDEMNS THE JORDANIAN INTELLIGENCE FOR THPERPETRATING THIS EXPLOSION.''
SYRIA LAST FRIDAY ANNOUNCED THAT ''ARMED MEN'' FROM JORDAN WERE PROTECTED BY FIRE FROM THE JORDANIAN ARMY WHEN THEY SLIPPED ACROSS THE BORDER TO ATTACK A SYRIAN MILITARY PATROL, KILLING AN OFICER AND ONE SOLDIER.
(MORE)(LF)
15120 01 25 82

R0197

Q H528 01 16 04

DAMASCUS -- SYRIA-JORDAN 2

THE JORDANIAN INTERIOR MINISTRY COUNTERED WITH A STATEMENT QUOTING TRAVELERS AND EYEWITNESSES WHO SAID THE TWO MEN DIED IN FIGHTING BETWEEN A SYRIAN ARMY UNIT AND OFFICERS OF THE SYRIAN SECURITY FORCES.

IN THE WAKE OF THE SEPTEMBER 1980 OUTBREAK OF THE PERSIAN GULF WAR, WHEN SYRIA BACKED IRAN AND JORDAN SIDED WITH IRAQ, SYRIAN-JORDANIAN RELATIONS GOT SO BAD THAT THE SIDES ROLLED TANKS AND ARMIES TO THEIR BORDERS AND WAR APPEARED CERTAIN UNTIL SAUDI ARABIA STEPPED IN TO DIPLOMATICALLY CALM THE TENSION.

SYRIA HAS A LONG-TERM FRIENDSHIP AGREEMENT WITH THE SOVIET UNION AND SOVIET MILITARY ADVISERS HELP TRAIN THE SYRIAN ARMED FORCES. SINCE THE DEC. 14 ISRAELI ANNEXATION OF THE GOLAN HEIGHTS, SYRIA HAS PRESSED FOR MORE SOVIET ARMS SO PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD'S FIGHTING POWER CAN MATCH THAT OF THE U.S.-BACKED ISRAELIS.

ONCE UNDER BRITISH MANDATE, KING HUSSEIN'S JORDAN SUPPLIES ITS MILITARY COMPLEX, FOR THE MOST PART, WITH WESTERN ARMS, THOUGH HUSSEIN LAST YEAR AGREED TO PURCHASE AN AIR DEFENSE SYSTEM FROM THE SOVIETS.

(LF/TB/NT)

1515G 01 25 82

R0146
Q H520 07 16 04
SYRIA-JORDAN
JORDAN DENIES ATTACK ON SYRIAN PATROL, SAYS FIGHTING INTERNAL
AMMAN, JORDAN (AP) -- JORDAN ON SATRURDAY DENIED ACCUSATIONS IT WASINVOLVED IN AN ATTACK ON A SYRIAN ARMY PATROL AND POINTED TO REPORTS THE GUNBATTLE INVOLVED RENEGADE SYRIAN SOLDIERS.
ON FRIDAY, A SYRIAN INTERIOR MINISTRY SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED THAT ARMED MEN PROTECTED BY FIRE FROM THE JORDANIAN ARMY HAD SLPIPPED INTO SYRIA AND ATTACKED THE PATROL, KILLING THE UNIT'S COMMANDER AND ONE SOLDIER.
THE SYRIAN SPOKESMAN SAID THE FIREFIGHT ERUPTED THURSDAY. THE JORDANIAN STATEMENT SATURDAY WAS THE FIRST OFFICIAL DENIAL, THOUGH JORDANIAN SOURCES ON FRIDAY HAD TOLD THE ASSOCIATED PRESS THE SYRIAN CHARGE WAS GROUNDLESS.
THE JORDANIAN COMMUNIQUE SAID ''TRAVELERS AND EYEWITNESSES ARRIVING IN JORDAN'' TOLD OF BATTLES ''INVOLVING SYRIAN ARMED ELEMENTS BELONGING TO THE SYRIAN ARMY AND SECURITY FORCES THAT LED TO THE KILLING OF TWO PERSONS.''
SYRIA HAD CHARGED THE ATTACKERS FLED SOUTH INTO JORDAN UNDER THE PROTECTION OF FIRE FROM THE JORDANIAN ARMY, AND THAT THE RAID TOOK PLACE NEAR THE VILLAGE OF KSEIR, NOT FAR FROM THE SOUTHERN CITY OF DER'A ON THE MAIN, NORTH-SOUTH HIGHWAY LINKING AMMAN, THE CAPITAL OF JORDAN, TO THE SYRIAN CAPITAL, DAMASCUS.
THE JORDANIAN INTERIOR MINISTRY CONDEMNED SYRIA FOR ''INVENTING FICTITIOUS INCIDENTS.''
JORDAN AND SYRIA, MIDDLE EAST NEIGHBORS WHO CAME CLOSE TO WAR IN NOVEMBER OF 1980, HAVE BEEN OFF-AND-ON RIVALS. FRICTIONS INCREASED WITH THE SEPTEMBER 1980 START OF THE PERSIAN GULF WAR BECAUSE SYRIA BACKED PERSIAN IRAN AND JORDAN UNDER USUALLY PRO-WESTERN KING HUSSEIN ACTIVELY HELPED ARAB IRAQ.
(MORE)
1146G 01 23 82

BB

R0148
Q H522 07 16 04
AMMAN -- SYRIA-JORDAM --2
SYRA HAS ACCUSED HUSSEIN'S GOVERNMENT OF ALLOWING MOSLEM BROTHERHOOD TERRORISTS TO BASE WITHIN JORDAN WHILE CARRYING OUT RAIDS INSIDE SYRIA AGAINST THE RULE OF PRESDENT HAFEZ ASSAD. JORDAN DENIES THE CHARGE, AND ACCUSES SYRIAN INTELLIGENCE OF COMPLICITY IN A STRING OF BOMBINGS EARLIER THIS MONTH IN AMMAN.

THE FLURRY OF ACCUSATIONS COMES AT A TIME WHEN SYRIA IS HOPING TO UNITE ARAB NATIONS IN A COMMON STAND AGAINST ISRAEL'S DEC. 14 ANNEXATION OF THE SYRIAN GOLAN HEIGHTS, OCCUPIED BY THE ISRAELIS SINCE THE 1967 MIDEAST WAR.

ALSO ATTHIS TIME, OIL-RICH SAUDI ARABIA, THE WEALTHIEST ARAB NATION, IS URGING ARAB LEADERS TO RALLY TOGETHER IN THE FACE OF THE ANNEXATION AND THE UNITED NATIONS VETO BY THE UNITED STATES THAT SPARED ISRAEL FROM SANCTIONS CALLED FOR IN AN ARAB-BACKED RESOLUTION THAT WAS INTRODUCED BY JORDAN.

THE ANNEXATION, WHCICH IN FACT WAS THE FORMAL EXTENSION OF ISRAELI LAW OVER THE OCCUPIED GOLAN, IS TO TOP THE AGENDA SUNDAY WHEN ARAB FOREIGN MINISTERS MEET INTUNIS, TUNISIA, UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE ARAB LEAGUE.

(ENDS)
1153G 01 23 82

R0261
Q H523 07 16 04
URGENT
SYRIA-JORDAN
SYRIA SAYS INFILTRATORS FROM JORDAN ATTACKED PATROL
DAMASCUS , SYRIA (AP) -- GUNMEN PROTECTED BY JORDANIAN ARMY FIRE SLIPPED ACROSS THE SOUTHERN SYRIAN BORDER AND KILLED TWO SYRIAN SOLDIERS IN AN ATTACK ON A SYRIAN ARMY PATROL, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED FRIDAY.

THERE WAS NO IMMEDIATE RESPONSE TO THE ALLEGATION FROM JORDAN, WHICH IS SYRIA'S SOUTHERN NEIGHBOR. THE RIVAL ARAB NATIONS MASSED TROOPS ON THEIR BORDERS IN NOVEMBER OF 1980 AND THREATENED TO GO TO WAR UNTIL SAUDI ARABIA STEPPED IN TO RELAX THE TENSIONS THROUGH DIPLOMATIC MEDIATION.

THE SYRIAN INTERIOR MINISTRY SAID, ''ARMED MEN HAVE INFILTRATED FROM THE JORDANIAN TERRITORIES INTO SYRIA, AND AMBUSHED A SYRIAN MILITARY PATROL INSIDE SYRIAN TERRITORY.''

THE COMMANDER AND ONE SOLDIER IN THE PATROL DIED, THE SPOKESMAN SAID. HE DID REPORT IF THERE WERE WOUNDED.

THE SPOKESMAN PUT THE ATTACK AT 1330 LOCAL TIME (1130GMT(THURSDAY, BUT GAVE NO EXPLANATION FOR WHY THE ANNOUNCEMENT WAS DELAYED BY MORE THAN 24 HOURS.

''THE ARMED MEN WITHDREW BACK INSIDE JORDANIAN TERRITORY UNDER THE COVER OF THE FIRE OF THE JORDANIAN ARMED FORCES,'' THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE PLACED THE INCIDENT NEAR THE SYRIAN VILLAGE OF KSEIR, LOCATED NEAR THE SOUTHERN SYRIAN CITY OF DER'A ON THE MAIN NORTH-SOUTH ROAD LINKING SYRIA'S CAPITAL , DAMASCUS, AND AMMAN, THE CAPITAL OF JORDAN.

THE SPOKESMAN DID NOT IDENTIFY THE ATTACKERS AS JORDANIAN SOLDIERS BUT BLAMED THE INCIDENT ON JORDANIAN AUTHROITIES.

''WE HOLD THE JORDANIAN GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBLE,'' HE SAID.

(MORE)
1438G 01 22 82

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R0262

Q H524 16 04 07

URGENT

DAMASCUS --SYRIA-JORDAN -- 2

SYRIAN PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD HAS BLAMED JORDAN'S KING HUSSEIN FOR ALLOWING MOSLEM BROTHERHOOD OPPONENTS OF ASSAD' S REGIME TO OPERATE FROM JORDAN.

ASSAD'S OPPOSITION HAS MOUNTED A CAMPAIGN OF BOMBINGS AND ARMED RAIDS ON SYRIAN OFFICIALS AND FACILITIES OVER THE PAST TWO AND A HALF YEARS.

THE SYRIAN SPOKESMAN DID NOT IDENTIFY THE ATTACKERS AS MEMBERS OF THE OUTLAWED BROTHERHOOD, SIMPLY CALLING THEM ''ARMED MEN.''

SAYING HE COULD BE IDENTIFIED ONLY AS A SPOKESMAN FOR SYRIA'S INTERIOR MINISTRY, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE ATTACK CAME AT A TIME WHEN ISRAEL IS ANNEXING THE SYRIAN GOLAN HEIGHTS, OCCUPIED BY THE JEWISH NATION SINCE THE 1967 MIDDLE EAST WAR.

(ENDS)

1440G 01 22 82

R0273

Q H525 07 04 16

DAMASCUS -- SYRIA-JORDAN -- 3

ONLY LAST WEEK, THE JORDANIAN GOVERNMENT ACCUSED +SYRIAN INTELLIGENCE+ OF BEING BEHINJ A SERIES OF ALLEGED BOMBINGS IN AMMAN. A GOVERNMENT STATEMENT SAID THE TARGETS OF THE BOMBINGS WERE MAINLY LIQUOR STORES +IN ORDER TO DIRECT THE ACCUSATIONS AGAINST CERTAIN ISLAMIC GROUPS IN THE COUNTRY.+ A REFERENCE TO THE MOSLEM BROTHERHOOD.

SYRIA DID NOT RESPOND TO THE ALLEGATION DESPITE AN OFFICIAL JORDANIAN PROTEST.

(END)

1506G 01 22 82

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R0336
Q H528 07 04 16
LEAD SYRIA-JORDAN (NIGHT LEAD NO PICKUP)
EDS: PLUS JORDANIAN DENIAL
DAMASCUS, SYRIA (AP)--SYRIA FIRDAY CLAIMED THAT GUNMEN FROM NEIGHBORING JORDAN LAUNCHED A MIDDAY RAID ON A SYRIAN ARMY PATROL, KILLING THE UNIT+S COMMANDER AND ONE SOLDIER BEFORE FLEEING UNDER THE PROTECTION OF THE JORDANIAN ARMY.
HIGH JORDANIAN OFFICIAL SOURCES IN AMMAN, WHO DECLINED TO BE IDENTIFIED, DENIED THE SYRIAN ALLEGATION ON FRIDAY AND IN TURN CHARGED +THE SYRIANS WANTED TO CAMOUFLAGE THEIR AIRFORCE MOVEMENTS OVER THE FRONTIERS+ AIRSPACE BY CREATING SUCH UNTRUE STORIES.+
THERE WAS NO COMMENT FROM SYRIA ON THE ALLEGED MANEUVERS ON THE JORDANIAN-SYRIAN BORDERS.
THE MIDEAST NEIGHBORS CAME TO THE BRINK OF WAR 15 MONTHS AGO WHEN EACH ROLLED TANKS AND TRUCKLOADS OF TROOPS TO THEIR BORDERS. DIPLOMATIC NEGOTIATING BY SAUDI ARABIA EASED THE TENSIONS, THOUGH SYRIA BACKS IRAN IN THE PERSIAN GULF WAR AND JORDAN UNDER KING HUSSEIN SUPPORTS IRAQ.
A SPOKESMAN FOR THE SYRIAN INTERIOR MINISTRY ANNOUNCED THE ATTACK FRIDAY AT MIDDAY, WHICH WAS MORE THAN 24 HOURS AFTER HE SAID THE RAID HAD TAKEN PLACE. HE DID NOT EXPLAIN THE TIME GAP.
HE SAID THAT AFTER THE INCIDENT, +THE ARMED MEN WITHDREW BACK INSIDE JORDANIAN TERRITORY UNDER THE COVER OF THE FIRE OF THE JORDANIAN ARMED FORCES.+
REFUSING TO BE IDENTIFIED BEYOND +SPOKESMAN FOR THE SYRIAN INTERIOR MINISTRY,+ HE SAID SYRIA HOLDS HUSSEIN+S GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE RAID.
(MORE)
1824G 01 22 82

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R0338

Q H529 07 04 16

DAMASCUS -- LEAD SYRIA-JORDAN (NL) 2

THE ATTACK OCCURED NEAR A VILLAGE OUTSIDE THE SOUTHERN CITY OF DER+A, LOCATED ON THE MAIN, NORTH-SOUTH ROAD LINKING DAMASCUS TO THE JORDANIAN CAPITAL, AMMAN.

JORDAN LAST WEEK ACCUSED SYRIAN INTELLIGENCE OF BEING BEHIND A SERIES OF REPORTED BOMBINGS IN AMMAN. SYRIA HAS NOT RESPONDED TO THE CHARGE.

SYRIAN PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD HAS ACCUSED HUSSEIN OF ALLOWING OPPONENTS OF ASSAD+S GOVERNMENT TO CARRY OUT TERRORIST ACTS INSIDE SYRIA FROM BASES WITHIN JORDAN.

(END)

1828G 01 22 82

BB

R0137
Q H503 07 04 16
JORDAN-SYRIA
JORDAN BLAMES SYRIA FOR RECENT BOMBINGS IN AMMAN
AMMAN, JORDAN (AP)--JORDAN'S GOVERNMENT ON THURSDAY ACCUSED +SYRIAN INTELLIGENCE+ OF BEING BEHIND A BOMB EXPLOSION IN A SUPERMARKET EARLIER THIS WEEK AS WELL AS OTHER RECENT BOMBINGS IN THE JORDANIAN CAPITAL, ACCORDING TO AN OFFICIAL STATEMENT BY THE INTERIOR MINISTRY.

THE STATEMENT SAID A TIME-BOMB EXPLODED MONDAY MORNING IN A SUPERMARKET IN AMMAN CAUSING HEAVY MATERIAL DAMAGE AND WOUNDIN SIX PERSONS. IT ACCUSED A SYRIAN DIPLOMAT, IDENTIFIED AS HISHAM MUSTAPHA KUNBOR, OF ALLEGEDLY RECRUITING TWO JORDANIAN +TO WORK WITH SYRIAN INTELLIGENCE AND PLACE THE BOMB IN THAT SHOP.+

THERE WAS NO IMMEDIATE COMMENT FROM SYRIA ON THE ACCUSATIONS.

THE MINISTRY STATEMENT IDENTIFIED THE TWO AS MOHAMMED ALI DARDOUK, WHO IT SAID WAS FROM THE ISRAELI-OCCUPIED WEST BANK CITY OF NABLUS, AND HIS UNCLE HIJAZI HASSAN DARDOUL, WHO IT SAID WAS THE SYRIAN AMBASSADOR' S DRIVER IN AMMAN.

THE STATEMENT ADDED THAT TKUNBOR, THE EMBASSY'S THIRD SECRETARY, AND THE UNCLE HAD LEFT THE COUNTRY IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE INCIDENT AND THAT THE 20-YEAR-OLD ABDULLAH WAS WOUNDED WHEN THE BOMB EXPLODED IN HIS HANDS.

THE ACCUSATION CAME AMIDST INCREASED APPEALS BY BOTH JORDAN AND SYRIA FOR STRENGTHENING THE ARAB FRONT TO CONFRONT ISRAEL'S ANNEXATION OF SYRIA'S GOLAN HEIGHTS.

(MORE)
0842G 01 14 82

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R0138
Q H505 07 04 16
AMMAN -- JORDAN-SYRIA -- 2
THE STATEMENT SAID THE JORDANIAN GOVERNMENT +DENOUNCED THESE ACTS OF SABOTAGE+ WHICH IT SAID WERE AIMED AT +DESTROYING ARAB SOLIDARITY AND STABBING THE ASPIRATIONS OF THE ARAB PEOPLE IN THE BACK IN ORDER TO DISUNITE ARAB RANKS.+
THE STATEMENT SAID SEVERAL OTHER BOMBINGS HAD OCCURRED IN JORDAN IN SOME LIQUOR STORES +IN ORDER TO DIRECT THE ACCUSATIONS AGAINST CERTAIN ISLAMIC GROUPS IN THE COUNTRY,+ A REFERENCE TO THE FUNDAMENTALIST MOSLEM BROTHERHOOD WHICH IS OUTLAWED IN SYRIA.
SYRIA HAS ACCUSED JORDAN OF HARBORING MOSLEM BROTHERHOOD FUGITIVES AND RECENTLY CHARGED JORDANIAN INTELLIGENCE WAS BEHIND A STRING OF BOMBINGS IN DAMASCUS.
THE TWO NEIGHBORING ARAB COUNTRIES COME TO THE BRINK OF WAR IN NOVEMBER 1980 WHEN EACH SIDE MASSED TROOPS ALONG THE BORDE AFTER JORDAN'S KING HUSSEIN AND SYRIAN PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD WAGED A WAR OF WORDS OVER THEIR DIFFERING ALLEGIENCES IN THE IRAN-IRAQ WAR.
(END)
0845G 01 14 82

R010
U W201 33

ASSAD

SYRIAN PRESIDENT MAKES BITTER ATTACK ON KING HUSSEIN

DAMASCUS, SYRIA (AP) -- PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD, IN A SLASHING ATTACK TUESDAY ON KING HUSSEIN OF JORDAN, CALLED ON THE JORDANIAN PEOPLE AND ARMED FORCES TO ''OVERTHROW THE TRAITOR.''

REFERRING TO REMARKS HUSSEIN MADE LAST WEEK, ASSAD SAID, ''IN HIS YPEECH A FEW DAYS AGO, THIS SON OF WHAT NOT WONDERED WHERE TO GO. HE WILL GO OUT, AND PERHAPS HE WILL BE ALLOWED TO TAKE HIS AUTOMOBILE WITH HIM.''

HUSSEIN HAD SAID THE PRO-SOVIET ASSAD WAS TRYING TO POLARIZE THE MIDDLE EAST INTO EAST-WEST CAMPS AND IF HE SUCCEEDED ''THE AREA WILL EXPLODE.''

ASSAD, IN A THREE-HOUR SPEECH TO A TRADE UNION CONFERENCE, OFFERED RECONCILIATION, BUT ONLY IF HUSSEIN WOULD ''OPEN ALL BORDERS FOR PALESTINIAN GUERILLA ACTIVITIES AGAINST ISRAEL.''

''I AM EVEN WILLING TO FORGIVE HIM ALL THE CRIMES THAT THE MOSLEM BROTHERHOOD GANG HAS PERPETRATED IN SYRIA WITH HIS SUPPORT, IF HE AGREES ONLY TO IMPLEMENT THIS (ANTI-ISRAELI) RESOLUTION TO WHICH HE AGREED HIMSELF IN MORE THAN ONE ARAB SUMMIT,'' ASSAD SAID.

SYRIA'S CLAIM THAT JORDAN IS AIDING THE MOSLEM BROTHERHOOD FUNDAMENTALISTS WHO HAVE BEEN WAGING AN ASSASSINATION CAMPAIGN AGAINST ASSAD'S REGIME NEARLY LED THE TWO ARAB NEIGHBORS TO BATTLE IN NOVEMBER. BOTH RUSHED TROOPS AND TANKS TO THEIR BORDER, BUT SAUDI ARABIA MEDIATED A WITHDRAWAL.

ASSAD PRAISED SOVIET AID TO HIS COUNTRY AND CRITICIZED THE UNITED STATES, BUT THE BULK OF HIS SPEECH WAS DIRECTED AT THE JORDANIAN ONARCH.

(MORE)

R012
U W202 33

DAMASCUS - ASSAD 2

HE ACCUSED HUSSEIN OF SURRENDERING LARGE CHUNKS OF PALESTINE TO ISRAELI IN 1948, WHEN THE JEWISH STATE WAS ESTABLISHED, AND ADDED, ''THE HEROIC JORDANIAN ARMY WAS NOT ALLOWED TO FIGHT IN 1967'' WHEN ISRAEL CAPTURED THE WEST BANK OF THE JORDAN RIVER IN A MIDEAST WAR.

HE ALSO ACCUSED ''THE JORDANIAN REGIME'' OF KILLING ''ABOUT 25,000 PALESTINIANS IN 1970'' WHEN HUSSEIN ORDERED A CRACKDOWN ON PALESTINIAN GUERRILLAS AND POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS OPERATING IN JORDAN.

ASSAD CALLED HUSSEIN ''AN ALL-TIMES TRAITOR WHO SOLD OUT TO THE ZIONISTS AND IMPERIALISTS'' AND ACCUSED HIM OF MEETING WITH VARIOUS ISRAELI LEADERS.

''THIS HUSSEIN HAS SHOWED US, AS HE SAYS, A PART OF HIS CHARACTER. LET US BE AWARE WHEN HE WILL SHOW US THE REST'', AASSAD SAID.

HE PRAISED THE SOVIET-SYRIA FRIENDSHIP TREATY AND ASKED, ''WHAT HAVE THE SOVIETS DONE TO US? HOW MANY ARABS DID THEY KILL OR SUBJUGATE? ARE WE TO PUNISH THEM BECAUSE THEY ARE SUPPORTING US POLITICALLY AND GIVING US WEAPONS THAT THEY GIVE ONLY TO WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES? WE ARE NOT A COMMUNIST STATE. WE ARE NOT A MEMBER OF THE WARSAW PACT. AND STILL THE U.S.S.R. GIVES US THE BEST WEAPONERY IT HAS.''

AMERICA ''WILL NOT GIVE THIS HUSSEIN THE EQUIVALENT OF THE ARMAMENT IT GIVES TO ISRAEL BECAUSE THIS HUSSEIN IS A FOLLOWER, AN AGENT, OF THE U.S. AND NOT A FRIEND,'' THE SYRIAN PRESIDENT ADDED.

REFERRING TO THE UNITED STATES AND ITS WESTERN ALLIES, ASSAD SAID, ''THEIR FLEETS ARE TODAY BESIEGING US FROM ALL SIDES. THESE FLEETS REPRESENT THE GREATEST DANGER WE ARE FACING. WHO EXCEPT THOSE FLEETS IS THREATENING THE ARAB NATION TODAY ?''

(END)

0051G 25 MAR 81

R186

Q N5Ø8 Ø7 16 Ø4

JORDAN-SYRIA

AMMAN, JORDAN (AF) -- KING HUSSEIN ON SATURDAY ATTACKED THE POLICIES OF SYRIAN PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD, SAYING "THE AREA WILL EXPLODE" IF ASSAD SUCCEEDED IN POLARIZING THE REGION INTO SUPPORTERS OF EAST AND WEST.

THE KING MADE HIS SPEECH AT THE TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIERS IN THE JORDAN VALLEY. THE MONUMENT IS A MEMORIAL TO SOLDIERS KILLED DURING THE BATTLE OF KARAMEH BETWEEN JORDAN AND ISRAEL IN 1967.

"THE SYRIAN COMMAND WANTS TO KILL THE SYRIAN PEOPLE"S SPIRIT IN ORDER TO CONCEAL ITS FAILURE AND CREATE SIDE BATTLES WITH US AND OTHER ARAB COUNTRIES," THE JORDANIAN MONARCH SAID.

HE ADDED ASSAD"S REGIME AIMED AT REDUCING THE MIDEAST INTO "FOLLOWERS OF EAST AND WEST AND INTERNATIONALIZE THE ZIONIST-ARAB STRUGGLE TO AGREE WITH THE GOALS OF ZIONISM," HUSSEIN SAID.

"IF THIS AIM IS IMPLEMENTED," HE SAID, "THIS AREA WILL EXPLODE AND BECOME THE TARGET FOR DANGERS AND A STAGE FOR WORLD STRUGGLE."

THE SPEECH BY THE PRO-WESTERN MONARCH CAME AFTER THE PRO-SOVIET SYRIAN LEADER LAUNCHED A STRONG ATTACK AGAINST HUSSEIN ON MARCH 8, MARKING THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE SOCIALIST BAATH PARTY WHICH RULES IN SYRIA. ASSAD HAD ACCUSED HUSSEIN OF COLLABORATING WITH EGYPT"S PRESIDENT ANWAR SADAT AND ISRAEL AS WELL AS PLOTTING AGAINST SYRIA.

THE TWO NEIGHBORING ARAB STATES CAME CLOSED TO ARMED CONFLICT ALONG THEIR COMMON BORDERS LAST NOVEMBER AFTER SYRIA ACCUSED JORDAN OF AIDING ANTI-SYRIAN, MOSLEM FUNDAMENTALIST GUERRILLAS AND OF PLANNING A GO-IT-ALONE PEACE INITIATIVE WITH ISRAEL. JORDAN DENIED THE ACCUSATIONS.

(MORE)

144ØG 21 MAR 81

R192

R N5Ø9 Ø7 Ø4 16

AMMAN -- JORDAN-SYRIA 2

SINCE THEN THE TWO COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN ENGAGED IN A WAR OF WORDS WITH CHARGES AND COUNTER CHARGES REPEATEDLY DENIED BY BOTH SIDES.

KING HUSSEIN CHARGED ASSAD WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR "THE DEFEAT OF THE EGYPTIAN AND JORDANIAN ARMIES IN THE 1967 WAR WITH ISRAEL AND THE DEFEAT OF THE SYRIAN ARMY IN THE 1973 (WAR WITH ISRAEL,)" HE DID NOT ELABORATE.

THE HASHEMITE MONARCH ALSO ATTACKED THE ROLE OF THE 23,ØØØ MAN SYRIAN PEACEKEEPING FORCE IN LEBANON. "THIS ARMY WHICH WAS SENT TO LEBANON TO RESTORE PEACE AND STABILITY AMONG THE LEBANESE AND PALESTINIANS HAS NOW RESROTED TO KIDNAPPINGS AND ASASSINATIONS AGAINST ANY VOICE OR PEN WHICH DOES NOT PLEASE THE ASSAD GROUP," HUSSEIN SAID.

JORDAN HAS ACCUSED SYRIA OF BEING BEHIND THE FEBRUARY KIDNAPPING IN LEBANON OF JORDAN''S CHARGE D''AFFAIRES HISHAM MUHAISSEN, WHO WAS ABDUCTED AT GUNPOINT FROM HIS BEIRUT APARTMENT. MUHAISSEN''S DISAPPEARANCE HAS REMAINED A MYSTERY AND IT IS NOT KNOWN IF HE IS STILL ALIVE.

KING HUSSEIN ALSO ATTACKED ASSAD FOR HIS SUPPORT OF IRAN IN THE PERSIAN GULF WAR AGAINST IRAQ. HUSSEIN, WHO IS IRAQI PRESIDENT SADDAM HUSSEIN''S MOST OUSTSPOKEN SUPPORTER SAID,

"IRAQ IS OUR BACKNONE AND SUPPORT BUT THE SYRIAN LEADERSHIP WANTS IT TO BE BROKEN IN ORDER TO ENDANGER THE HOLY ARAB LANDS AND THE ARAB GULF."

(END)

1459G 21 MAR 81

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R 257
Q N 523 07 16 04

NL SYRIA -JORDAN

SYRIA -JORDAN STRAIN WORSENS

AMMAN , JORDAN (AP)-- JORDAN ACCUSED SYRIA ''S INTELLIGENCE SERVICE WEDNESDAY OF PLOTTING TO ASSASSINATE JORDANIAN PRIME MINISTER MUDAR BADRAN AND SYRIA COUNTERED WITH A CHARGE THAT JORDAN WAS BEHIND "HUNDREDS OF POLICICAL MURDERS " IN SYRIA .

THE EXCHANGE SIGNALLED A FURTHER DETERIORATION IN RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO NEIGHBORING ARAB COUNTRIES , STRAINED BY THE GUNPOINT ABDUCTION OF JORDAN ''S TOP DIPLOMAT IN BEIRUT , LEBANON , 19 DAYS AGO .

OFFICIAL SOURCES HERE SAID THREE SYRIAN ARMY OFKICERS AND TWO CIVILIANS ARRESTED IN JORDAN A FEW DAYS BEFORE THE FEB . 6 ABDUCTION OF JORDANIAN CHARGE D ''AFFAIRES HISHAN MUHAISSEN IN BEIRUT WOULD COFESS THEIR ROLES IN BADRAN ''S ASSASSINATION CONSPIRACY ON JORDAN ''S STATE TELEVISION .

THE SOURCES SAID A TELEVISION INTERVIEW WAS RECORDED WITH THE LEADER OF THE ALLEGED SYRIAN HIT TEAM THAT HAS BEEN IN PRISON IN AMMAN SINCE THE ARREST .

A SPOKESMAN FOR SYRIA ''S INTELLIGENCE SERVICE LASHED BACK AT JORDAN IN AN IMPROMPTU NEWS CONFERENCE IN DAMASCUS , THE SYRIAN CAPITAL , A FEW HOURS AFTER THE BADRAN ASSASSINATION CONSPIRACY WAS CLAIMED .

THE SPOKESMAN WHO DECLINED USE OF HIS NAME , ACCUSED BADRAN OF PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY IN A CAMPAIGN OF BOMBINGS AND POLITICAL ASSASSINATIONS IN SYRIA , WHICH AUTHORITIES BLAME ON JORDAN -TRAINNED GUERRILLAS OF THE OUTLAWED MOSLEM BROTHERHOOD .

MORE

1556G 25 FEB 81

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R 268
Q N 524 07 16 04

AMMAN -- NL SYRIA -JORDAN 2

"OUR PEOPLE WILL NEVER FORGET THOSE WHO PLANNED FOR THE ASSASSINATION OF HUNDREDS OF OUR INNOCENT WORKERS , PEASANTS , ENGINEARS , DOCTORS , LAWYERS , UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS AND CLERGY - MEN ," THE SPOKESMAN SAID .

"THOSE BEHIND THESE MURDERS MUST BEAR THE CONSEQUENCES OF WHAT THEY HAVE DONE , AND MUST GET THE PUNISHMENT THEY DESERVE ... MUDAR BADRAN IS ONE OF THOSE IMPERIALIST AGENTS WHO PLANNED FOR TERRORIST ACTS INSIDE OUR COUNTRY . THERE ARE ALSO OTHER ELEMENTS IN THE JORDANIAN REGIME WHO SHARED IN THE ASSASSINATIONS OF OUR SONS ," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED .

"THEIR ACTS REFLECT THE PEAK OF MEANNESS ," THE SPOKESMAN WENT ON . "DECISIVE PUNISHMENT MUST BE METED OUT ON THE ELEMENTS OF TREASON IN THE JORDANIAN REGIME ."

THIS WAS THE HARSHESTIATTACK ON JORDAN SINCE KING HUSSEIN ''S CONSERVATIVE GOVERNMENT IN AMMAN ACCUSED SYRIA OF MASTERMINDING MUHAISSEN ''S KIDNAPPING .

PRO -SOVIET SYRIA , WHICH HAS A 22,000-STRONG ARMY POLICING A CIVIL WAR ARMISTICE IN LEBANON , DENIED THE CHARGE AND PRESI - DENT HAFEZ ASSAD SAID SYRIA WOULD DO ALL IN ITS POWER TO FIND THE 42-YEAR -OLD KIDNAPPED DIPLOMAT .

OFFICIAL SOURCES IN AMMAN SAID THE FIVE ALLEGED SYRIAN HIT MEN ENTERED JORDAN WITH FORGED PASSPORTS AND WERE PLANNING SABOTAGE OPERATIONS AGAINST BADRAN ''S OFFICE , THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE MOSLEM BROTHERHOOD AND SEVERAL IRAQI TARGETS IN JORDAN .

THE SOURCES SAID THE FIVE ARRESTED SYRIANS WERE IN POSSESSION OF A LARGE QUATITIY OF ARMS AND EXPLOSIVES AND HAD TAKEN A RENTED HOUSE 10 MILES (30 KM) WEST OF AMMAN , THE JORDANIAN CAPITAL .

MORE

1618G 25 FEB 81

R 273

Q N 525 07 16 04

AMMAN -- NL SYRIA -JORDAN 3

THE THREA SOLDIERS WERE IDENTIFIED AS COL . ADNAN MOHAMMED KAMEL BARAKAT , SGT . IBRAHIM HAMED FAYAD AND CPL . AKRAN ALI JAMIL BISHANI . THE SOURCES SAID THE THREE ARE MEMBERS OF THE DEFENSE BRIGADES OF COL . RIFAAT ASSAD , YOUNGER BROTHER OF THE SYRIAN PRESIDENT WHO WAS ACCUSED OF ISSUING THE ORDER FOR BADRAN ''S ASSASSINATION .

ALSO ARRESTED WERE A MERCHANT , TAHA MOHAMMED HADAR , AND DRIVER GEORGE ABDU YACOUB BITAR , WHO ALLEGEDLY WORKS FOR THE SYRIAN DEFENSE BRIGADES , THE SOURCE SAID .

WELL -INFORMED OBSERVERS BELIEVE ANNOUNCEMENTS OF THE ARRESTS AND SYRIA ''S COUNTER CHARGES BAR ANY ATTEMPT TO RECONCILE THE ARAB NEIGHBORS LYING ON ISRAELS ''S EASTERN BORDER AND WHICH HAVE BEEN ALLIES IN THREE MIDDLE EAST WARS .

SAUDI ARABIA AND THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION WERE REPORTEDLY INVOLVED IN EFFORTS TO BRING SYRIA AND JORDAN BACK TOGETHER . JORDAN BEGAN RESTRICTING ENTRY OF SYRIAN NATIONALS TO ITS TERRITORY AFTER THE MUHAISSEN ABDUCTION .

RELATIONS BEGAN DETERIORATING LAST NOVERMBER WHEN SYRIA MASSED 50,000 TROOPS AND 1,200 TANKS ON JORDAN ''S NORTHERN BORDER , DEMAND - ING KING HUSSEIN STOP ALLEGED SUPPORT OF MOSLEM BROTHERHOOD FUNDE - MENTALISTS AND DISAVOW ANY INTENTION TO JOIN AN AMERICAN -SPONSORED CAMP DAVID -STYLE MIDDLE EAST PEACE INITIATIVE .

HUSSEIN , WHO SENT HIS OWN TROOPS AND ARMOR TO MATCH THE SYRIAN BUILDUP , ANGRILY DENIED BOTH CHARGES AND REFUSED TO MEET ANY SYRIAN CONDTION . BUT A MILITARY SHOWDOWN WAS AVERTED BY SAUDI MEDIATION .

END

1636G 25 FEB 81

R 243
R Q 807 07 04 16

SYRIA -JORDAN

DAMASCUS , SYRIA (AP)-SYRIA CHARGED FRIDAY THAT JORDANIAN PRIME MINISTER MUDAR BADRAN MASTERMINDED THE KIDNAPPING OF THE JORDANIAN CHARGE D ''AFFAIRES HISHAM AL -MUHAISSEN IN LEBANON .

MUHAISSEN WAS ABUDCTED LAST FRIDAY BY GUNMEN WHO BROKE INTO HIS BEIRUT APPARTMENT IN THE EARLY MORNING AFTER A SHOOTOUT WITH GUARDS THAT LEFT THREE PERSONS KILLED .

ANONYMOUS CALLERS TO A PRIVATELY -OWNED RADIO STATION IN BEIRUT CLAIMED THAT THE SYRIA -BACKED "EAGLES OF THE REVOLUTION " GROUP WAS BEHIND THE KIDNAPPING . A SPOKESMAN FOR THE GROUP DENIED THE GROUP WAS INVLOVED .

MUHAISSEN ''S FATE REMAINS UNKNOWN .

AN OFFICIAL SYRIAN SPOKESMAN SAID IN A STATEMENT SYRIA "HAS ALL THE EVIDENCE AND IS CONVINCED THAT BADRAN MOUNTED THE OPERATION OF KIDNAPPING THE JORDANIAN CHARGE D ''AFFAIRES IN BEIRUT ."

BADRAN "PLANNED AND IMPLEMENTED THE SCHEME OF THE KIDNAPPING AND THE SUBSEQUENT MEASURES AGAINST THE SYRIAN PEOPLE , AND MISLEADING THE PRESS ON THIS ISSUE ," THE SPOKESMAN SAID . (MORE)

(JP)

1735G 13 FEB 81

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R 251
R Q 808 07 04 16

DAMASCUS --SYRIA -JORDAN 2

THE INCIDENT HAS CAUSED A RAPID DETERIORATION OF THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO NEIGHBORING ARAB COUNRIES TO THE LOWEST LEVEL SINCE LAST NOVMEBER WHEN SYRIA AND JORDAN MASSED TROOPS ALONG THEIR COMMON BORDER AND NEARLY CAME TO BLOWS BEFORE SAUDI ARABIA MEDIATED A DE -ESCALATION OF THE TENSION .

THE DISPUTE STEMMED FROM JORDAN ''S SUPPORT OF IRAQ AND SYRIA ''S SUPPORT OF IRAN IN THE IRAN -IRAQ WAR IN THE PERSIAN GULF . SYRIA ALSO ACCUSED JORDAN OF FANNING ITS INTERNAL UNREST THROUGH THE MOSLEM BROTHERHOOD UNDERGROUND .

THE TWO COUNTRIES HAVE RECALLED THEIR AMABASSADORS AND INSTITUTED VISAS AND OTHER TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS ON EACH OTHER ''S NATIONALS .

THE SYRIAN OFFICIAL CHARGED BADRAN WAS "A REPUTED AGENT OF THE AMERICAN CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY ," AND THAT THE KIDNAPPING WAS AIMED AT "COVERING UNREST TAKING PLACE INSIDE JORDAN .

THE INCIDENT ALSO WAS PLANNED TO COVER THE "REAL REASONS " OF THE DISPUTE BETWEEN SYRIA AND JORDAN , THE SPOKESMAN SAID , ADDING THESE WERE JODANIAN KING HUSSEINS "ATTEMPT TO IMPOSE HIMSLEF AS A SPOKESMAN FOR THE PALESTINIANS , IN VIOLATION OF ARAB SUMMIT RESOLUTIONS ." (END) (FARES /JP)

1757G 13 FEB 81

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R 167

R N 515 07 04 16

SYRIA -JORDAN NITER

AMMAN , JORDAN (AP)--A WAR OF WORDS BETWEEN NEIGHBORING SYRIA AND JORDAN HEATED UP WITH JORDANIAN ALLEGATIONS FRIDAY THAT SYRIAN TROOPS MASSACRED 200 ANTI -GOVERNMENT ACTIVISTS LAST WEEK .

THE ACCUSATION , REPORTED BY STATE -RUN MEDIA IN AMMAN , WAS DISMISSED BY A SENIOR SYRIAN OFFICIAL IN DAMASCUS AS "RIDICULOUS " AND AN ATTEMPT TO BESMIRCH THE SYRIAN ARMED FORCES .

THE PROPAGANDA BATTLE BETWEEN PRO -SOVIET SYRIA AND PRO -WESTERN JORDAN HAS LINGERED IN THE WAKE OF A BORDER CRISIS IN LATE NOVEMBER AND EARLY DECEMBER IN WHICH BOTH SIDES DISPATCHED THOUSANDS OF TROOPS AND HUNDREDS OF TANKS TO THEIR FRONTIERS .

JORDAN''S OFFICIAL PETRA NEWS AGENCY QUOTED UNIDENTIFIED TRAVELERS ARRIVING HERE AS SAYING SYRIAN TROOPS ROUNDED UP 200 PERSONS, PRESUMABLY SYMPATHIZERS WITH THE OUTLAWED MOSLEM BROTHERHOOD , AND EXECUTED THEM IN THE CENTRAL MASHARKA SQUARE OF ALEPPO , 200 MILES (322 KM) NORTH OF DAMASCUS .

ALEPPO HAS BEEN A CENTER OF ANTI -GOVERNMENT ACTIVITY BY ISLAMIC FUNDAMENTALISTS SINCE BROTHERHOOD MBERS ATTACKED THE ARTILLERY SCHOOL THERE ON JUNE 16, 1979, AND KILLED 63 CADETS .

SYRIA HAS BLAMED JORDAN''S KING HUSSEIN , ALONG WITH IRAQ AND EGYPT , OF TRAINING THE INSURGENTS AND PROVIDING THEM WITH MILITARY BASES. JORDANIAN OFFICIALS HAVE DENIED THE CHARGE ALTHOUGH THE BROTHERHOOD IS KNOWN TO HAVE A PRESENCE IN THE COUNTRY .

IN AN INTERVIEW WITH THE ASSOCIATED PRESS LAST MONTH , A PROMINENT BROTHERHOOD LEADER , 59-YEAR -OLD JORDANIAN LAWYER MOHAMMAD ABDUL RAHMAN KHALIFA , SAID THE ISLAMIC FUNDAMENTALIST GROUP OPERATED UNDER MANY CONSTRAINTS IN JORDAN AND WAS BANNED FROM PUBLISHING MAGAZINES OR NEWSPAPERS .

(MORE)

1539G 02 JAN 81

R 169

R N 516 07 04 16

AMMAN -- SYRIA -JORDAN NITER 2

TRAVELERS RETURNING TO BEIRUT FROM SYRIA IN RECENT DAYS HAVE REPORTED ALEPPO AND THE CENTRAL SYRIAN CITY OF HOMS TO BE CALM ALTHOUGH THE OFFICIAL SYRIAN MEDIA REPORTED SECURITY FORCES HAD TRACKED DOWN AND KILLED NINE BROTHERHOOD MEMBERS IN THE LAST WEEK AFTER THE ASSASSINATION OF A TOP SYRIAN POLITICIAN IN THE CAPITAL .

THE TRAVELERS ALSO SAID THAT A LARGE NUMBER OF NEW SOVIET - MADE TANKS AND TRUCKS WERE SEEN ON THE HIGHWAY TO DAMASCUS FROM THE MEDITERRANEAN PORT CITY OF LATAKIA.

SYRIA SIGNED A 20-YEAR FRIENDSHIP TREATY WITH THE SOVIET UNION ON OCT . 8. THE SIGNING CEREMONY WAS FOLLOWED BY WEEK -LONG TALKS BETWEEN SYRIAN DEFENSE MINISTER MUSTAFA TLASS AND SOVIET OFFICIALS ON REPORTED REQUESTS BY PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD 'S GOVERNMENT FOR ADVANCED SOVIET T-72 TANKS AND MIG-25 JET FIGHTERS .

LIBYA , ANOTHER PRO -SOVIET STATE ENGAGED IN A UNITY EFFORT WITH SYRIA , IS SAID BY SOME SOURCES TO HAVE CONTRIBUTED A BILLION U .S . DOLLARS FOR THE ARMS PURCHASES.

AT THE SAME TIME , JORDAN HAS REQUESTED 150 MILLION U .S . DOLLARS WORTH OF U .S . ARMS TO BEEF UP ITS ARSENAL .

TENSION BETWEEN THE TWO NATIONS CAME TO A HEAD SHORTLY BEFORE ARAB LEAGUE SUMMIT IN AMMAN IN LATE NOVEMBER , WHICH WAS BOYCOTTED BY SYRIA AND FIVE OTHER LEAGUE MEMBERS .

MORE

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AMMAN -- SYRIA-JORDAN NITER 3

SYRIA SENT MORE THAN 30,000 TROOPS AND 600 TANKS TO THE BORDER AND JORDAN RESPONDED WITH A LARGE BUILDUP OF ITS OWN . THE CRISIS WAS DEFUSED BY SAUDI ARABIAN MEDIATION .

A THREE -MAN DELEGATION REPRESENTING THE ARAB LEAGUE , SAUDI ARABIA AND ALGERIA FLEW TO AMMAN AND DAMASCUS LAST WEEK IN AN EFFORT TO SMOOTH OVER DIFFERENCES. JORDAN ''S KING HUSSEIN , HOWEVER , HAS SAID IN RECENT INTERVIEWS THE "GLASS WAS CRACKED " AND DOUBTED RELATIONS COULD BE PATCHED UP .

JORDAN ''S OFFICIAL NEWS AGENCY SAID FRIDAY THAT THE CRACKDOWN ON ACTIVISTS IN ALEPPO WAS CONTINUING AND THAT "SYRIAN DEFENSE REGIMENTS WERE STILL RAIDING PUBLIC QUARTERS IN ALEPPO AND ARRESTING MANY PEOPLE AFTER PARADING THEM IN THE STREETS ."

IT NAMED ONE OF THE PERSONS KILLED IN THE ALLEGED MASSACRE AS DR . ABDUL -RAZAK MAROUR , A PROFESSOR OF ENGINEERING AT ALEPPO UNIVERSITY .

IN DAMASCUS, THE SENIOR SYRIAN OFFICIAL SAID , "THE JORDANIAN REGIME WANTS TO SPOIL THE REPUTATION OF OUR ARMED FORCES, ESPECIALLY AFTER OUR AIR FORCE DEFENDED PALESTINIAN CAMPS IN LEBANON ON WEDNESDAY ."

HE REFERRED TO AN ISRAELI -SYRIAN DOGFIGHT IN WHICH SYRIA CLAIMED TO HAVE DOWNED TWO ISRAELI PLANES WHILE LOSING TWO OF ITS OWN SOVIET -MADE MIGS . "THIS REGIME JORDAN ''S HAS TAIMED ITS LIES TO BURY THE STORY OF OUR AIRFORCE CONFRONTATION WITH ISRAEL ."

£ SYRIA HAS REPEATEDLY ACCUSED KING HUSSEIN OF DESIRING TO MAKE A GO -IT -ALONE PEACEMAKING INITIATIVE WITH THE UNITED STATES AND ISRAEL AND OF WANTING TO USURP THE ROLE OF THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION .

(END)

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B 07 16 04 44
SYRIA-JORDAN
DAMASCUS, SYRIA (AP)--SYRIA HAS WITHDRAWN ROUGHLY TWO THIRDS OF ITS MILITARY FORCES FROM JORDANS NORTHERN BORDER AND PLANS TO FINISH THE PULL-BACK OF 50,000 TROOPS AND 1,200 TANKS BY FRIDAY, OFFICIAL SOURCES HERE SAID WEDNESDAY.

ALTHOUGH THE THREAT OF WAR BETWEEN THE TWO MIDDLE EASTERN ARAB NEIGHBORS HAS BEEN DEFUSED, SYRIAS PROPOGANDA CAMPAIGN AGAINST JORDANS KING HUSSEIN CONTINUED AT FULL BLAST.

PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSADS BAATH PARTY REGIME WANTS SOME 200 SYRIAN MEMBERS OF THE OUTLAWED MOSLEM BROTHERHOOD EXTRADITED FROM JORDAN, WHERE THEY SOUGHT REFUGE FROM AN ONGOING NATION-WIDE GOVERNMENT CRACKDOWN HERE.

LAST WEEKS MEDIATION BY SAUDI ARABIA BROUGHT ABOUT AN AGREEMENT BY SYRIA TO WITHDRAW ITS MILITARY PRESENCE. THE SYRIANS EXPECT THE SAUDIS TO UNDERTAKE FURTHER MEDIATION TO RESOLVE THE DISPUTE THAT PROMPTED THE MILITARY MOVES, INFORMED SOURCES HERE SAID.

KING HUSSEIN, WHILE ACKNOWLEDGING THE SYRIAN PULLBACK OF TROOPS AND ARMOR, RECENTLY TOLD AN INFORMAL NEWS CONFERENCE IN AMMAN THAT SYRIA HAS SENT A LIST OF 16 RUNAWAY BROTHERHOOD SUSPECTS. NONE IS IN JORDAN, HE SAID.

MORE

10 DEC 80

N509

R 07 16 04 44

DAMASCUS-- SYRIA-JORDAN 2

THERE HAS BEEN NO INFORMATION ABOUT A PRECIPROCAL TROOP WITHDRAWAL BY JORDAN, WHICH MASSED ABOUT 30,000 SOLDIERS AND 600 TANKS TO FACE THE NOV. 22 SYRIAN BUILDUP.

THE ASSAD GOVERNMENT HOLDS THE BROTHERHOOD RESPONSIBLE FOR A BOMB-AND ASSASSINATION CAMPAIGN THAT CLAIMED THE LIVES OF MORE THAN 200 ASSAD SUPPORTERS PLUS THREE SOVIET ADVISERS IN SYRIA IN 18 MONTHS.

"POLITICAL TENSION IS DIFFERENT FROM MILITARY TENSION," SAID ONE SYRIAN OFFICIAL WHO DECLINED TO BE NAMED. "WHILE WE REMAIN COMMITTED TO THE MILITARY WITHDRAWAL PLAN AS NEGOTIATED BY SAUDI ARABIA, WE HAVE TO ADMIT THAT NOTHING POLITICALLY HAS BEEN DONE. ALL THE THINGS THAT GENERATED THE CRISIS STILL ARE THERE."

THE SYRIANS, MEANWHILE, ARE TAKING PRIDE IN THE SPEED WITH WHICH THEIR 50,000 TROOPS AND 1,200 TANKS WERE DEPLOYED AND THEN PULLED. SENIOR OFFICERS SAID THE DEPLOYMENT WAS COMPLETED WITHIN ONE WEEK AND THE WITHDRAWAL WILL TAKE A WEEK, TOO.

THEY SAID TWO MONTHS WERE NEEDED DURING THE 1973 MIDDLE EAST WAR TO ACCOMPLISH SUCH A BUILDUP IN THE GOLAN HEIGHTS.

(END/NASSAR/HINDY)

10 DEC 80

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Q 07 16

SYRIA-JORDAN

AN AP NEWS ANALYSIS

BY STEVE K. HINDY

AMMAN, JORDAN (AP)--THE SYRIA-JORDAN BORDER CRISIS HAS CREATED YET ANOTHER FLASHPOINT IN THE TURBULENT MIDDLE EAST. DESPITE REPORTS OF SYRIAN PULL-BACKS, KING HUSSEIN REMAINS DEEPLY SUSPICIOUS OF PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSADS INTENTIONS.

"REGARDLESS OF WHAT HAPPENS IN THE FUTURE, THE GLASS IS CRACKED AND I DONT HAVE MUCH HOPE IT CAN BE RESTORED," SAID THE 45-YEAR-OLD MONARCH IN AN INFORMAL MEETING WITH WESTERN REPORTERS AT BASSMAN PALACE HERE MONDAY.

ALTHOUGH HE SAID HE WAS SPEAKING IN SADNESS, THE KINGS VOICE BETRAYED SOME ANGER AS HE DETAILED THE DETERIORATION OF HIS RELATIONS WITH ASSAD THAT CULMINATED WITH SYRIA SENDING 50,000 TROOPS TO THE BORDER NOV. 22.

JORDAN RESPONDED WITH THE DISPATCH OF 30,000 SOLDIERS TO THE AREA. THE KING HAS SAID THERE ARE "PRELIMINARY REPORTS" OF A SYRIAN PULL-BACK, BUT DIPLOMATIC SOURCES HERE SAID THEY DID NOT EXPECT THE JORDANIANS TO RESPOND UNTIL THE SYRIANS HAD MADE SIGNIFICANT WITHDRAWALS.

SYRIA BOYCOTTED THE NOV. 25 SUMMIT ARAB IN AMMAN, SAYING THE DEEP DIVISIONS IN THE ARAB WORLD PRECIPITATED BY THE IRAQ-IRAN WAR MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE TO REACH AGREEMENT AT THE MEETING.

"IN THIS PERIOD PRECEDING THE SUMMIT, WE BEGAN TO HEAR THREATS OF INVADING THIS COUNTRY," SAID HUSSEIN. "THIS WAS SPOKEN IN VERY CLEAR TERMS BY THE SYRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER (ABDUL-HALIM KHADDAM) HIMSELF AT THE (PRE-SUMMIT) FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING."

(MORE/HINDY)

9 DEC 80

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N520
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AMMAN -- SYRIA-JORDAN 2 (ANALYSIS)

THE KING SAID HE "COULD NOT BELIEVE" THE FIRST REPORTS OF SYRIAN TROOPS MASSING ON THE BORDER, AND HE ADDED THESE REPORTS DREDGED UP A MEMORY HE HAD TRIED TO SUPPRESS: SYRIAS 1970 DISPATCH OF TANKS AND TROOPS OF THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ARMY ACROSS THE NORTHERN BORDER.

THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT ORDERED THE PALESTINIAN-MANNED ARMY TO JORDAN IN AN UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPT TO HELP THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION RESIST THE KINGS EXPULSION OF THE GUERRILLAS FROM JORDAN. ASSAD WAS THEN DEFENSE MINISTER.

HUSSEIN SAID HE WAS PUZZLED BY SYRIAS MOTIVES IN THE PRESENT CRISIS.

HE SAID SYRIAN CLAIMS THAT JORDAN WAS HELPING ANTI-SYRIAN TERRORISTS OF THE FUNDAMENTALIST MOSLEM BROTHERHOOD AND WAS PLANNING A CAMP DAVID-STYLE PEACE INITIATIVE WITH U.S. PRESIDENT-ELECT RONALD REAGAN WERE "BASELESS."

THE KING SAID JORDAN WAS DOING EVERYTHING IT COULD TO CO-OPERATE WITH SYRIA IN KEEPING ANTI-GOVERNMENT TERRORISTS FROM USING JORDAN AS A TRANSIT POINT FOR ENTRY INTO SYRIA. BUT HE SAID JORDANS GOOD FAITH INTENTIONS WERE NOT RECIPROCATED.

HE REVEALED THAT IN 1979, JORDAN HANDED OVER TO SYRIA THREE SYRIAN CITIZENS FOR QUESTIONING ABOUT ANTI-GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES. ONE HAD BEEN GIVEN A 10-YEAR SENTENCE IN ABSENTIA, HE SAID.

"WE WERE SHOCKED BEYOND BELIEF WHEN ALL THREE WERE EXECUTED," HE SAID.

HE ALSO REVEALED THAT TWO SYRIAN AIR FORCE PILOTS DEFECTED TO JORDAN EARLIER THIS YEAR IN A SOVIET-MADE MIG-21 THAT ALMOST CRASHED WITH A COMMERCIAL JET WHEN IT LANDED AT AMMAN AIRPORT. HE SAID THE TWO HAD FLED BECAUSE ONE OF THEM HAD BEEN QUESTIONED IN DAMASCUS FOR "ISLAMIC FEELINGS."

(MORE/HINDY)

9 DEC 80

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AMMAN -- SYRIA-JORDAN 3 (ANALYSIS)

JORDAN REFUSED TO RETURN THE TWO PILOTS. HE ALSO SAID A SYRIAN DIPLOMAT AND TWO OTHER SYRIANS WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MURDER OF A SYRIAN EXILE IN DOWNTOWN AMMAN LAST SEPTEMBER. THE DIPLOMAT WAS RETURNED TO SYRIA, BUT THE OTHER TWO WERE HANGED IN JORDAN, HE SAID.

JORDANIAN OFFICIALS ARE KNOWN TO BELIEVE THE BORDER CRISIS IS AN EFFORT TO DIVERT ATTENTION FROM SYRIAS INTERNAL UNREST AND CURRY FAVOR WITH ITS ALLY IRAN BY CHALLENGING JORDAN, IRAQS MAIN ALLY IN THE GULF WAR. THEY ALSO BELIEVE THE SOVIET UNION IS SUPPORTING THE BORDER TROUBLE IN AN EFFORT TO SHOW IT IS A FORCE THAT MUST BE RECKONED WITH IN THE AREA.

THE KING QUOTED SYRIAN OFFICIALS AS TELLING JORDAN IN DISCUSSIONS IN THE PAST YEAR THAT THE BROTHERHOOD WAS NOT TOTALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE BOMBINGS AND ASSASSINATIONS THAT HAVE ROCKET SYRIA IN THE PAST TWO YEARS, BUT WERE ONLY PART OF "A BROADLY-BASED COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT."

WITH THE KINGS CONFIDENCE IN HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH ASSAD FAILING, DIPLOMATS AND OTHER OBSERVERS BELIEVE THE BORDER CRISIS REMAINS A CONSTANT THREAT TO THE STABILITY OF THE REGION, A SIMMERING FEUD THAT CAN BE BROUGHT TO A BOIL IN A MATTER OF MOMENTS.

(END/HINDY)

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INSERT

AMMAN -- JORDAN-SYRIA 2 (ANALYSIS), TO INCLUDE INFORMATION, INSERT AFTER SECOND GRAF N520, DEFENSE MINISTER.

THE KING SAID HE NOW VIEWED THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATIONS EFFORTS TO POSTPONE THE SUMMIT, WHICH HE SAID WERE UNDERWAY WHEN THE BUILD-UP BEGAN, NOT AS A POSITIVE INITIATIVE BUT AN EFFORT TO DEMORALIZE THE JORDANIAN PEOPLE. THE PLO AND FOUR OTHER ARAB NATIONS SUPPORTED THE SYRIAN BOYCOTT.

HUSSEIN SAID, THIRD GRAF N520

N527

Q 07 04 16

SYRIA-JORDAN

AMMAN, JORDAN (AP)--KING HUSSEIN TUESDAY SAID SYRIA HAD "BEGUN PULLING BACK ITS TANKS" FROM JORDANS NORTHERN BORDER, OFFICIALS HERE SAID.

SPEAKING AT A MEETING OF JORDANIAN ARMY OFFICERS, HUSSEIN WAS QUOTED AS SAYING: "THANK GOD OUR BRETHREN IN SYRIA HAVE REEVALUATED THEIR POSITIONS AND BEGAN PULLING BACK THEIR TANKS AND VEHICLES, WHICH WE HOPE WILL NOW BE PLACED IN THEIR NATURAL POSITIONS TO PLAY THEIR ROLE IN FACING DANGERS SURROUNDING US FROM EVERY SIDE."

THUSSEIN HAD EARLIER EXPRESSED SKEPTICISM ON THE SYRIAN REPORTS OTHAT THE WITHDRAWAL OF TROOPS HAD BEGAN ON SUNDAY. THE KING TOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE IN AMMAN MONDAY HE WOULD ONLY BE SATISFIED UNTIL THE LAST SYRIAN SOLDIER WAS OUT OF THE BORDER AREA.

SYRIA BEGAN MASSING ITS TROOPS ALONG ITS SOUTHERN BORDER ON NOV. 22, DEPLOYING A TOTAL OF 50,000 SOLDIERS AND 1,200 TANKS. JORDAN RESPONDED BY SENDING 30,000 TROOPS AND 600 TAKNKS TO ITS NORTHERN BORDER.

THE DISPUTE FLARED DURING THE ARAB FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING, HOSTED BY JORDAN , A PRELUDE TO THE NOV. 25 ARAB SUMMIT WHICH SYRIA, ALONG WITH LEFTIST HARDLINERS BOYCOTTED.

SYRIAN PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD, IN A RECENT INTERVIEW ACCUSED HUSSEIN OF SEEKING A GO-IT-ALONE CAMP-DAVID STYLE DEAL WITH THE NEW U.S. ADMINISTRATION OF U PRESIDENT-ELECT RONALD REAGAN. HE ALSO ACCUSED JORDAN OF SUPPORTING AND TRAINING THE FUNDAMENTALIST MOSLEM BROTHERHOOD ORGANIZATION, WHICH HAS BEEN BLAMED FOR ASSASSINATIONS AND BOMBINGS AGAINST SUPPORTERS OF ASSADS SOCIALIST BAATHIST REGIME IN THE PAST 18 MONTHS.

(MORE)

1835GMT 09DEC80

N528
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AMMAN-- SYRIA-JORDAN 2
JORDAN HAS DENIED ALL THE ALLEGATIONS AND ACCUSED THE SOVIET UNION, WHICH RECENTLY RATIFIED A 20-YEAR FRIENDSHIP TREATY WITH SYRIA, OF INSTIGATING THE BORDER CRISIS.
"WE HAVE HEARD THREATS OF INVASION TO THIS ARAB HOMELAND," HUSSEIN WAS QUOTED BY THE OFFICIALS AS SAYING," IN ADDITION TO MISLEADING ANTI-JORDAN PRESS CAMPAIGNS WHICH HAVE NO REPEAT NO JUSTIFICATION AND WHICH HAVE NO BASES IN FACT. BUT WE ALWAYS PRAYED GOD TO GUIDE OUR SYRIAN BRETHREN."
HUSSEIN WAS REFERRING TO THE WAR OF WORDS WHICH FLARED DURING THE TWO-WEEK BORDER CRISIS.
THE OFFICIALS SAID HUSSEIN BRIEFED HIS OFFICERS ON THE BORDER SITUATION AND QUOTED HIM AS SAYING THAT THE EXPECTATION OF WAR BETWEEN SYRIA AND JORDAN COULD ONLY BE DESCRIBED AS A "BLACK MARK." WHICH ALL ARABS WOULD OBJECT TO.
"THE STRUCTURE OF THE JORDANIAN ARMY WAS BUILT TO CONFRONT THE ZIONIST DANGER AND RESTORE ARAB RIGHTS IN OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES IN ORDER THAT THE PALESTINIANS CAN REGAIN THEIR TOTAL RIGHTS," THE 45 -YEAR-OLD MONARCH WAS QUOTED BY THE OFFICIALS AS SAYING.
(END)

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R 07 04 16

SYRIA-JORDAN (SUGS FOR MON PMS)

AN AP NEWS ANALYSIS

BY STEVE K. HINDY

AMMAN, JORDAN (AP)--JORDANIAN OFFICIALS BELIEVE THE SOVIET UNION IS BEHIND THE TWO-WEEK TROOP BUILD-UP ON JORDANS BORDER AND THE DRUMBEAT OF "DEMANDS" FROM THE SYRIAN CAPITAL DAMASCUS.

BOTH COUNTRIES HAVE SAID THEY DO NOT WANT WAR. OFFICIALS IN SYRIA SAID SUNDAY A FULLSCALE PULLBACK ON BOTH SIDES OF THE BORDER HAD BEGUN BUT THIS COULD NOT BE CONFIRMED BY JORDANIAN SOURCES.

"WE ARE STILL TAKING THIS SERIOUSLY," SAID ONE SOURCE.

AT THE PEAK OF THE CRISIS, THERE WERE 50,000 SYRIAN TROOPS AND 1,200 TANKS RANGED AGAINST 30,000 JORDANIAN TROOPS AND AN ESTIMATED 600 TANKS. THE ARMIES STOOD ONLY 10 KILOMETERS (SIX MILES) APART.

IN BACKGROUND INTERVIEWS, JORDANIAN OFFICIALS SAID THE CRISIS WAS IN ITS BROADEST SENSE A SOVIET EXERCISE WITH ITS NEWEST ALLY, SYRIA. LAST OCT. 8, THE TWO COUNTRIES SIGNED A FRIENDSHIP TREATY THAT REQUIRES CONSULTATIONS IN THE EVENT OF AN ATTACK ON EITHER COUNTRY.

THE INSTRUMENTS OF RATIFICATION WERE EXCHANGED IN DAMASCUS DEC. 2, AT THE HEIGHT OF THE CURRENT TENSION, BY SYRIANS OFFICIALS AND A SOVIET DELEGATION THAT DIPLOMATS SAID WAS MUCH MORE SENIOR THAT NORMAL FOR SUCH OCCASIONS.

KING HUSSEIN AND LEADERS OF OTHER CONSERVATIVE, PRO-WESTERN COUNTRIES IN THE GULF SEE THIS TREATY AS FURTHER SOLIDIFYING THE "SOVIET PRESENCE AND ENCROACHMENT IN THE FOUR CORNERS" OF THE MIDEAST CHESSBOARD-- SYRIA, IRAN, SOUTH YEMEN AND ETHIOPIA. THE KING HAS BEEN QUOTED AS SAYING THERE IS A SOVIET DIALOGUE WITH IRAN.

(MORE/HINDY/TATRO)

7 DEC 80

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N519
R 07 04 16
AMMAN -- JORDAN-SYRIA 2
JORDANIAN OFFICIALS BELIEVE THE COMMON INTEREST OF THESE FOUR DIVERSE STATES LIES IN CREATING INSTABILITY IN THE REGION TO ALLOW THE SOVIETS, AND THEMSELVES, TO PLAY LARGER ROLES.
"ITS FOR SURE THE SOVIETS ARE BEHIND THESE EVENTS ON THE BORDER," SAID ONE JORDANIAN OFFICIAL. "THEY ARE TRYING TO CREATE STRUGGLE AREAS IN THE MIDDLE EAST TO CONFRONT THE NEW ADMINISTRATION OF (U.S. PRESIDENT-ELECT RONALD) REAGAN. THEY STIR THINGS UP TO GIVE THEMSELVES MORE CHANCE TO GET IN."
THIS OFFICIAL SAID THE "CONDITIONS" BEING ISSUED THROUGH THE SYRIAN MEDIA WERE BEING CONCOCTED BY SOVIET ADVISERS IN THE INFORMATION MINISTRY IN DAMASCUS. HE DISMISSED THESE DEMANDS, FOR AN ALLEGED END TO ALLEGED JORDANIAN SUPPORT FOR ANTI-SYRIAN TERRORISTS AND A PROMISE HUSSEIN WILL NOT MADE A CAMP DAVID-STYLE DEAL, AS IRRELEVANT FANTASIES.
ALONG WITH THE "FOUR CORNERS" THEORY, THEY SEE THE SOVIET AND SYRIAN INTERESTS AS COINCIDING IN TWO OTHER WAYS.
BY CONFRONTING JORDAN, THE SYRIANS ARE DIVERTING THE ATTENTION OF IRAQS BEST ALLY IN THE WAR AGAINST IRAN. THE IRAQIS HAVE REPORTEDLY SENT TROOPS TO REINFORCE THE DIVISION THEY NORMALLY KEEP ON THE SYRIAN BORDER, AS A PRECAUTION.
THE SYRIANS LET IT BE KNOWN THEY WOULD TRY TO CUT IRAQS VITAL SUPPLY LINES THROUGH JORDAN IN THE EVENT OF HOSTILITIES.
(MORE/HINDY)

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N520

R 07 04 16

AMMAN -- JORDAN-SYRIA 3

THE IRANIANS, WHO HAVE CALLED THE SOVIETS REFUSAL TO SUPPLY SPARE PARTS AND AMMUNITION, TO THE IRAQIS A "GOOD ACT," NO DOUBT TOOK NOTICE OF THE SYRIAN-SOVIET MOVES, OFFICIALS SAID.

THE SECOND BENEFIT TO THE SYRIANS IS THAT THE CRISIS DRAWS ATTENTION FROM SYRIAS INTERNAL TROUBLES. UNDERGROUND TERRORISTS HAVE CONDUCTED A TWO-YEAR CAMPAIGN OF BOMBINGS AND ASSASSINATIONS AGAINST SUPPORTERS OF PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD.

THE SYRIA-JORDAN BORDER CRISIS HAS DRAWN ATTENTION FROM THESE EVENTS JUST AS LAST SUMMERS ANNOUNCED SYRIAN PEACEKEEPING TROOP WITHDRAWAL FROM BEIRUT, LEBANON, AND LAST SEPTEMBERS SYRIAN-LIBYAN UNITY PROJECT DIVERTED PUBLIC ATTENTION THEN.

NEITHER THE WITHDRAWAL NOR THE UNITY HAVE MATERIALIZED.

(END/HINDY)

7 DEC 80

N507

R 07 04 16

SYRIA-JORDAN

DAMASCUS, SYRIA (AP)--SYRIA AND JORDAN PULLED THEIR ARMIES BACK FROM THEIR TENSE COMMON BORDER SUNDAY AND CALLED A TRUCE IN A WAR OF WORDS THAT BROUGHT THE TWO ARAB COUNTRIES TO THE BRING OF A MILITARY SHOWDOWN, OFFICIAL SOURCES HERE SAID.

THE MOVES CAME IN RESPONSE TO A MEDIATION BY SAUDI ARABIA, WHOSE SECOND DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER UNDERTOOK A FOUR-DAY SHUTTLES BETWEEN SYRIA AND JORDAN EARLY IN THE WEEK, SAID THE SOURCES, WHO DECLINED TO BE IDENTIFIED.

THE SOURCES SAID THE WITHDRAWAL OF TROOPS AND ARMOR BEGAN AN MASSE SATURDAY EVENING AND STILL WAS UNDER WAY 24 HOURS LATER ON BOTH SIDES OF THE FRONTIER.

GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED SYRIAN NEWSPAPERS AND THE STATE RADIO ALSO STOPPED A THREE-WEEK CAMPAIGN AGAINST JORDANS KING HUSSEIN AS ARAB LEAGUE SECRETARY GENERAL CHADLI KLEIBI USED HIS GOOD OFFICES IN DAMASCUS TO SUPPLEMENT THE SAUDI MEDIATION.

KLEIBI ARRIVED HERE SATURDAY FOR MEETINGS WITH SYRIAN PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD AND FOREIGN MINISTER ABDUL-HALIM KHADDAM. THE TUNISIAN SECRETARY GENERAL IS DUE TO GO TO AMMAN FOR TALKS WITH KING HUSSEIN WITHIN THE NEXT 24 HOURS.

THE SOURCES SAID SAUDI ARABIAS MEDIATION ABOLISHED THE THREAT OF WAR BETWEEN THE TWO NATIONS AND KNOW KLEIBI IS TRYING TO WORK OUT AN AGREEMENT TO REMOVE THE CAUSES OF THE DISPUTE.

MORE

7 DEC 80

UKV
N508

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DAMASCUS -- SYRIA-JORDAN 2

CHARGING THAT JORDAN HELPED THE OUTLAWED MOSLEM BROTHERHOOD IN A TERROR CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE ASSAD REGIME, SOVIET-BACKED SYRIA MASSED 50,000 TROOPS AND 1,200 TANKS ON JORDANS NORTHERN FRONTIER, STATING THE BUILDUP ON NOV. 20. HUSSEIN, A U.S. ALLY RESPONDED WITH A BUILDUP OF 30,000 MEN AND 600 TANKS.

SINCE ITS AGREEMENT TO THIN OUT THE BUILDUP IN RESPONSE TO SAUDI MEDIATION, SYRIA HAS BEEN INSISTING THAT HUSSEINS GOVERNMENT TURNS OVER SOME 200 MOSLEM BROTHERHOOD GUERRILLAS WHO WERE SAID TO HAVE ESCAPED A NATIONWIDE SYRIAN CRACKDOWN BY FLEEING TO SANCTUARY IN JORDAN.

SYRIA HOLDS THE FUNDAMENTALIST MOVEMENT RESPONSIBLE FOR A BOMB-AND-ASSASSINATION CAMPAIGN THAT LEFT SEVERAL HUNDRED GOVERNMENT SUPPORTERS DEAD IN THE PAST 18 MONTHS.

ALTHOUGH JORDAN PUBLICLY DENIED CHARGES OF HELPING THE BROTHERHOOD, SYRIA PROVIDED THE SAUDI AND ARAB LEAGUE MEDIATORS WITH LISTS OF NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF SYRIAN BROTHERHOOD GUERRILLAS LIVING IN JORDAN, THE SOURCES SAID.

THE TROOPS WITHDRAWAL DISPELLED TENSION AND THE TRAFFIC OF GOODS AND PASSENGERS WAS OFFICIALLY REPORTED TO HAVE RETURNED TO PRE-CRISIS LEVELS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

END

7 DEC 80

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N511

Syria - Jordan

R 07 04 16
SYRIA-JORDAN

KUWAIT (AP)--SYRIAN PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD WAS QUOTED AS SAYING SATURDAY HE BELIEVED THE BORDER CRISIS WITH JORDAN COULD BE RESOLVED "WITHOUT FIGHTING."

IN AN INTERVIEW WITH THE CONSERVATIVE DAILY AL-RAI AL-AM NEWSPAPER, ASSAD ALSO CLAIMED CREDIT FOR CONTAINING THE PERSIAN GULF WAR BY PERSUADING IRAN NOT TO ATTACK OIL-RICH ARAB STATES SYMPATHETIC TO IRAQ.

ASSAD INDICATED THE PURPOSE OF THE MILITARY BUILDUP OF 50,000 TROOPS AND UP TO 1,200 TANKS ON JORDANS BORDER WAS TO FORCE KING HUSSEIN TO HALT AID TO ANTI-SYRIAN TERRORISTS AND KEEP THE MONARCH FROM JOINING THE U.S.-INSPIRED CAMP DAVID PEACE PROCESS.

"HAD JORDAN BEEN A NON-ARAB COUNTRY WE WOULD HAVE CERTAINLY APPROACHED IT DIFFERENTLY LONG AGO WITHOUT HAVING ANY SECOND THOUGHTS ABOUT ENTERING ITS TERRITORY," ASSAD WAS QUOTED AS SAYING. "WE BELIEVE WE CAN LIMIT JORDANS INVOLVEMENT WITHOUT FIGHTING BETWEEN THE JORDANIAN AND SYRIAN ARMIES."

ASSADS REMARKS COUPLED WITH A REPORTED TOKEN WITHDRAWAL BY SYRIAN FORCES FROM THE BORDER ON FRIDAY INDICATED THE THREAT OF WAR BETWEEN TWO OF ISRAELS ARAB NEIGHBORS HAD PASSED.

BUT ASSAD INDICATED THE BASIC DIFFERENCES WITH KING HUSSEINS GOVERNMENT OVER MIDEAST POLICY AND JORDANS ALLEGED SUPPORT OF MOSLEM BROTHERHOOD INSURGENTS REMAINED UNRESOLVED.

"JORDAN CONTINUES TO CONSPIRE AGAINST SYRIA AND SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGE SABOTAGE AND ASSASSINATIONS AND DO ITS BEST TO CREATE DISSENTIONS IN THE ARAB RANKS," ASSAD CHARGED.

(MORE)

6 DEC 80

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N513
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KUWAIT-- SYRIA-JORDAN 2
ASSAD ALSO ACCUSED KING HUSSEIN OF "FOLLOWING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF EGYPT PRESIDENT ANWAR SADAT" AND SEEKING TO "CREATE AN ATMOSPHERE THAT HELPS JORDAN TO JOIN THE CAMP DAVID (PROCESS) OR A SIMILAR FORMULA."

JORDAN HAS DENIED BOTH CHARGES.

ASSAD WAS QUOTED AS CLAIMING JORDAN PROPOSED AT A FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING BEFORE A NOV. 25-27 ARAB SUMMIT THAT JORDAN REPLACE THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION OR BE "CO-NEGOTIATOR" IN ANY MIDEAST PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

"I HEREBY EMPHASIZE THAT WE IN SYRIA WILL NOT PERMIT ANYBODY TO ENCROACH ON THE PLOS RIGHT TO SOLELY REPRESENT THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE," ASSAD WAS QUOTED AS SAYING.

SYRIA BEGAN ITS BUILDUP NOV. 20 DURING THE FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING AND ENGINEERED A BOYCOTT OF THE SUMMIT BY SIX ARAB LEAGUE MEMBERS, INCLUDING THE PLO, AFTER JORDAN REFUSED SYRIAS REQUEST FOR A POSTPONEMENT.

IN THE WIDE-RANGING INTERVIEW, THE 50-YEAR-OLD SYRIAN LEADER ALSO ACCUSED IRAQ OF "STARTING THE HOSTILITIES" WITH IRAN SETP. 22 AND CLAIMED THE WAR HAD "THE DIRECT AIM OF PUSHING IRAN AGAIN INTO THE ARMS OF THE UNITED STATES."

HE SAID SYRIA HAD ACTED TO KEEP THE WAR FROM SPREADING TO THE GULF AFTER IRANIAN THREATS TO PURSUE IRAQI VESSELS TAKING SHELTER IN GULF PORTS.

"WE MADE CLEAR TO (IRAN) SUCH EXPANSION OF THE WAR WOULD MEAN A WAR BETWEEN YOU AND THE ARABS RATHER THAN BETWEEN YOU AND THE IRAQI REGIME AND ADVISED THEM TO REFRAIN FROM ANY ATTACK ON ANY ARAB STATE," ASSAD WAS QUOTED AS SAYING.

(MORE)

6 DEC 80

N514

R 07 04 16

KUWAIT -- SYRIA-JORDAN 3

AFTER IRANIAN PLANES REPORTEDLY ROCKETED A KUWAIT BORDER POST AT ABDALAI, ASSAD WAS QUOTED AS SAYING SYRIA INFORMED KUWAIT OF "OUR PREPARDNESS TO SEND TROOPS TO KUWAIT."

THE SYRIAN LEADER DENIED PUBLISHED REPORTS THAT DAMASCUS WAS SENDING MILITARY SUPPLIES TO IRAN TO AID ITS WAR EFFORT AGAINST SYRIAS LONGTIME RIVAL IRAQ.

"IF WE WANT TO SUPPLY IRAN WITH MEN AND WEAPONS WE WOULD HAVE USED THEM ACROSS THE BORDER WITH IRAQ," ASSAD WAS QUOTED AS SAYING, ADDING SYRIA WOULD HAVE FOUGHT ON IRAQS SIDE IF IT HAD BEEN IRAN LAUNCHED THE WAR.

(END/JALIL-TATRO)

6 DEC 80

N518
R 07 04 16
INSERT
KUWAIT-SYRIA-JORDAN N511: INSERT AFTER 4TH GRAF TO GIVE DATE
OF INTERVIEW: "HAD JORDANX X X SYRIAN ARMIES."
THE INTERVIEW WAS CONDUCTED ON THURSDAY.
ASSADS REMARKS: 5TH GRAF
(END)

N513

0 07 04 16

SYRIA-JORDAN

DAMASCUS, SYRIA (AP)--SYRIA PULLED BACK A FEW SOVIET-MADE T-62 TANKS FROM THE BORDER WITH JORDAN FRIDAY IN THE FIRST TANGIBLE SIGN OF EASING MILITARY TENSIONS BETWEEN THE TWO NEIGHBORING ARAB STATES.

WESTERN DIPLOMATIC SOURCES SAID UP TO 15 TANKS WERE SEEN RUMBLING OFF THE BORDER ON THE DERAA-DAMASCUS HIGHWAY IN THE EARLY MORNING HOURS.

THE SOURCES SAID IT WAS A TOKEN WITHDRAWAL APPARENTLY INTENTEDDED AS A GOODWILL GESTURE TO GIVE SAUDI ARABIA THE CHANCE TO WORK OUT A DETAILED AGREEMENT THAT WOULD RESOLVE THE DISPUTE THAT CAUSED THE MASSIVE MILITARY BUILD-UP.

SAUDI ARABIA ANNOUNCED ON THURSDAY THAT SYRIAN PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSADHAD A HAD AGREED TO WITHDRAW GRADUALLY THE 50,000 TROOPS AND 1,200 TANKS HE MASSED ALONG THE JORDANIAN BORDER.

THE ANNONUNCEMENT SAID THE SYRIAN MOVE CAPPED FOUR DAYS OF A MEDIATION SHUTTLE BY THE SAUDI SECOND DEPUTY PREMIER PRINCE ABDULLAH BIN ABDUL AZIZ BETWEEN THE SYRIAN AND THE JORDANIAN CAPITALS.

(MRORE)

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N514
Q 07 04 16
DAMASCUS-- SYRIA-JORDAN 2
JORDAN, AN ALLY OF THE UNITED STATES, MOVED TWO ARMORED DIVISIONS OF 30,000 MEN INTO POSITIONS JUST SIX MILES (10 KM) SOUTH OF THE SYRIAN DEPLOYMENT ALONG THE 180-MILE (300 KM) FRONTIER.

THE SAUDI ANNOUNCEMENT DID NOT SAY ON WHAT BASIS ASSAD AGREED TO THIN OUT HIS BUILDUP. INFORMED SOURCES IN DAMASCUS EXPECT SAUDI ARABIA TO UNDERTAKE A NEW EFFORT TO GET THE REASONS OF THE DISPUTE REMOVED.

THE SYRIANS HAVE DEMANDED THAT JORDAN STOP HELPING THE MOSLEM BROTHERHOOD, AN OUTLAWED FUNDAMENTALIST MOVEMENT ASSAD'S GOVERNMENT HOLDS RESPONSIBLE FOR AN 18-MONTH CAPAIGN OF CITY BOMBINGS AND POLITICAL ASSASSINATIONS THAT CLAIMED THE LIVES OF MORE THAN 200 ASSAD SUPPORTERS.

THE SYRIANS CLAIM JORDAN ALLOWED BROTHERHOOD GUERRILLAS TO TRAIN IN CAMPS IN NORTHERN JORDAN AND TO INFILTRATE THROUGH SOUTHERN SYRIA, SYRIA DEMANDED BOTH CAMPS AND INFILTRATION ROUTES BE CLOSED BY KING HUSSEIN'S GOVERNMENT.

THE SYRIANS ALSO DEMANDED HUSSEIN PLEDGE NOT TO BREAK AWAY FROM ARAB RANKS AND JOIN INCOMING U.S. PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN IN A NEW MIDDLE EAST PEACE MOVE THAT WOULD EXCLUDE SYRIA, THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION AND THE SOVIET UNION. THE SYRIANS WANTED THE PLEDGE GUARANTEED BY SAUDI ARABIA.

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N516
Q 07 04 16
DAMASCUS -- SYRIA-JORDAN 3
JORDAN HAS REPEATEDLY STATED BEFORE AND DURING THE CRISIS THAT IT DID NOT HELP THE BROTHERHOOD, WOULD NOT REVERSE ITS RECOGNITION OF THE PLO AS THE SOLE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND WOULD NOT EMBARK ON A SEPARATE PEACE MOVE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

BUT KING HUSSEIN REJECTED THE CONCEPT OF +DICTATED TERMS+ AND HIS GOVERNMENT SAID THE SYRIAN DECISION TO PULL BACK THE FORCES FROM THE JORDANIAN BORDER WAS NOT FORMALLY COMMUNICATED TO THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM.

ARAB DIPLOMATS IN BEIRUT SAY THE THREAT OF AN ARMED CONFLICT BETWEEN SYRIA AND JORDAN HAS BEEN DEFUSED BY PRINCE ABDULLA, WHOSE SUCCESSFUL MISSION STREGTHENED SAUDI ARABIA'S PRESTIGE IN THE ARAB WORLD.

THE DIPLOMATS SAY JORDAN'S PUBLIC DENIALS OF SYRIA'S ACCUSATIONS IN THEMSELVES SERVE AS A RESPONSE TO THE SYRIAN DEMANDS OF NO SUPPORT FOR THE BROTHERHOOD AND NO BETRAYAL OF THE PLO. THE SAUDIS WOULD BE ABLE TO GUARANTEE THESE PLEDGES WITHOUT HAVING KING HUSSEIN COMMUNICATE THEM IN FORMAL NOTES TO SYRIA, WHICH WOULD MAKE JORDAN APPEAR TO YIELD TO SYRIAN MILITARY PRESSURE, THE SOURCES ADDED.
(END)

5 DEC 80

V
N531

Syria - Jordan

R 07 04 16
JORDAN-BORDER
BY STEVE K. HINDY
AMMAN, JORDAN (AP)--A TOP JORDANIAN OFFICIAL REACTED SKEPTICALY THURSDAY TO A SAUDI MEDIATORS STATEMENT THAT SYRIAN TROOPS WILL GRADUALLY BE WITHDRAWN FROM THE JORDANIAN BORDER, SAYING: "OUR CONFIDENCE IS IN WHAT WE SEE ON THE GROUND AND IN FACTS."
SAUDI PRINCE ABDULLAH BIN ABDEL AZIZ, ACTING AS KING KHALEDS PERSONAL ENVOY IN THE 12-DAY BORDER CRISIS, ANNOUNCED AFTER RETURNING TO RIYADH FROM TALKS WITH KING HUSSEIN AND SYRIAN PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD THAT HIS MISSION WAS "SUCCESSFUL."
BUT INFORMATION MINISTER ADNAN ABU AUDEH WAS QUOTED BY THE OFFICIAL JORDANIAN NEWS AGENCY AS SAYING: "WE WILL JUDGE THIS REPORT WHEN WE SEE THE LAST SYRIAN SOLDIER, WHO HAS BEEN SENT TO SYRIAS SOUTHERN BORDER WITH JORDAN, HAS BEEN WITHDRAWN AND REUTURNED TO HIS NATURAL PLACE."
THE NATURAL PLACE HE WAS APPARENTLY REFERRING TO IS SYRIAS COMMON FRONTIER WITH ISRAEL IN THE GOLAN HEIGHTS.
AN ESTIMATED 50,000 SYRIAN TROOPS AND 1,200 TANKS ARE NOW TATIONED ABOUT 30 MILES (48 KM) EAST OF THE ISRAELI BORDER NEAR THE SYRIAN BORDER TOWN OF DERAA, ABOUT 90 MILES (145 KM) NORTH OF THE JORDANIAN CAPITAL.
(MORE)

04DEC80

N5 32
R 07 04 16
AMMAN -- JORDAN BORDER 2
JORDAN RESPONDED TO THE BUILD-UP BY DISPATCHING A FORCE ESTIMATED AT 30,000 TROOPS TO THE NORTHERN BORDER. SYRIA BEGAN ITS BUILD-UP WHEN IT ANNOUNCED ITS BOYCOTT OF THE NOV. 25 ARAB SUMMIT HELD IN AMMAN.

DIPLOMATIC SOURCES IN AMMAN SAID JORDANIAN OFFICIALS APPEARED TO HAVE BEEN TAKEN BY SURPRISE BY ABDULLAHS ANNOUNCEMENT, WHICH WAS CARRIED BY THE SAUDI PRESS AGENCY. THEY SAID THE JORDANIANS HAD NO DETAILS OF ANY PHASED WITHDRAWAL PLAN.

THE STATEMENT CAME AFTER THE PRINCES SECOND ROUND OF MEETINGS WITH ASSAD. HE MADE A SIMILARLY OPTIMISTIC STATEMENT AFTER HIS FIRST MEETING WITH THE SYRIAN PRESIDENT LAST SUNDAY AND MONDAY, AND THESE MEETINGS WERE FOLLOWED BY SYRIA DOUBLING ITS MILITARY PRECENCE ON THE BORDER.

ONE DIPLOMAT FAMILIAR WITH SAUDI ARABIA SAID IT WOULD NOT BE IN CHARACTER FOR THE SAUDIS TO ISSUE A PESSIMISTIC STATEMENT. "THE SAUDIS DONT LIKE PUBLIC QUARRELS," HE SAID.

THESE SOURCES SAID THE JORDANIANS, HOWEVER, DID FEEL THE TENSION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES HAD ABATED SOMEWHAT IN THE PAST TWO DAYS, MAINLY BECAUSE THEY BELIEVE IF THE SYRIANS HAD WANTED WAR, THEY WOULD HAVE ATTACKED BY NOW.

(MORE)

04DEC80

N533
R 07 04 16
AMMAN -- JORDA[redacted]BORDER 3
"OBVIOUSLY IF YOU REALLY WANT TO ATTACK, YOU DONT SEND YOUR MEN OUT THERE AND SAY, HERE WE ARE, AND THEN GIVE THE OTHER SIDE TIME TO DIG IN AND TAKE AIM," SAID ONE DIPLOMAT.
THE JORDANIANS HAVE FIRMLY REJECTED ANY HINT THAT HUSSEIN WILL MEET ASSADS REPORTED CONDITIONS FOR LESSENING THE BORDER TENSION.
THE CONDITIONS, REPORTED IN SYRIAS OFFICIAL PRESS, ARE THAT HUSSEIN PROMISE TO DROP ALLEGED SUPPORT FOR ANTI-SYRIAN FUNDAMENTALIST MOSLEM TERRORISTS AND PLEDGE HE WILL NOT TRY TO USURP THE ROLE OF THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION AS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE.
ABU AUDEH HAS SAID THAT AGREEING TO THESE CONDITIONS WOULD IMPLY THE KING IS GUILTY OF THE ALLEGATIONS.
JORDANIAN OFFICIALS HAVE REPEATEDLY SAID JORDAN IS NOT SUPPORTING THE OUTLAWED MOSLEM BROTHERHOOD, BLAMED FOR HUNDREDS OF BOMBINGS AND ASSASSINATIONS IN SYRIA, AND DOES NOT WANT TO SUPPLANT THE PLO.
THE THE SAME TIME, THESE OFFICIALS HAVE SAID JORDAN IS WILLING TO CONSIDER ANY REASONABLE PLAN FOR SLESSINING TENSION.
"HUSSEIN IS QUITE WILLING TO LET THINGS DWINDLE OFF INTO THE DESERT AND BACK TO THE STATUS QUO," SAID ONE DIPLOMAT. "BUT HE IS NOT GOING TO GIVE AWAY THE STORE TO ASSAD."
(END)

04DEC80

N537

Q 07 04 16

NI SYRIA-JORDAN

BY LOUIS FARES

DAMASCUS, SYRIA (AP)--A SAUDI ARABIAN TROUBLE-SHOOTER HELD URGENT TALKS WITH JORDANS KING HUSSEIN IN AMMAN AND SYRIAN PRESIDENT IN DAMASCUS WEDNESDAY ON THE FINAL STAGE OF A MEDIATION SHUTTLE TO HEAD OFF A SYRIA-JORDAN BORDER WAR.

PRINCE ABDULLA BIN ABDUL-AZIZ, SECOND DEPUTY PREMIER OF THE WORLDS LARGEST OIL EXPORTING NATION, JETTED TO THE SYRIAN CAPITAL FOR THE SECOND TIME IN FOUR DAYS, FOLLOWING A 24-HOUR STAY THE JORDANIAN CAPITAL.

(MORE/NASSAR/TATRO)

3 DEC 80

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N541
Q 07 04 16
DAMASCUS -- NL SYRIA-JORDAN 2
AS ABDULLAS CONFERENCE WITH ASSAD GOT UNDERWAY BEHIND CLOSED DOORS, OFFICIALS HERE WARNED THAT WAR WOULD BE INEVITABLE IF JORDAN FAILED TO MEET SYRIAS TERMS FOR ENDING THE DISPUTE.
THESE TERMS, THE OFFICIALS SAID, WERE LAID DOWN DURING MEETINGS ABDULLA HELD WITH ASSAD ON SUNDAY AND MONDAY. ALTHOUGH HUSSEIN PROCLAIMED HIMSELF OPEN FOR "ANY REASONABLE PROPOSALS TO END THIS POINTLESS DISPUTE," HIS INFORMATION MINISTER ADNAN ABU ODEH DENIED THAT U.S.-BACKED MONARCH HAS GIVEN IN TO THE SYRIAN DEMANDS.
SOVIET-ARMED SYRIA HAS ABOUT 50,000 TROOPS AND 1,200 TANKS MASSED ON THE 186-MILE (300 KM) BORDER WITH JORDAN. THE KING MOVED TWO ARMORED DIVISIONS, TOTALLING ABOUT 30,000 MEN, TO GUARD AGAINST A SYRIAN ATTACK.
SYRIA, ACCORDING TO OFFICIALS IN DAMASCUS WHO DECLINED TO BE IDENTIFIED BY NAME, HAS DEMANDED THAT JORDAN STOP HELPING OUTLAWED MOSLEM BROTHERHOOD FANATICS OPPOSED TO ASSADS SOCIALIST BAATH PARTY REGIME.
THE SYRIANS HAVE DEMANDED THAT DOZENS OF MOSLEM BROTHERHOOD GUERRILLAS WHO HAD ESCAPED A GOVERNMENT CRACKDOWN THIS FALL AND SOUGHT SANCTUARY IN JORDAN BE HANDED OVER TO SYRIAN AUTHORITIES, THE SOURCES SAID.
(MORE)

3 DEC 80

N544

Q 07 04 16

DAMASCUS -- N[redacted]SYRIA-JORDAN 3

THE SYRIANS ALSO WANTED AN UNEQUIVOCAL PLEDGE BY KING HUSSEIN, GUARANTEED BY SAUDI ARABIA, HE WOULD NOT UNDERMINE THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION BY SEEKING TO REPRESENT THE PALESTINIANS IN A GO-IT-ALONE MIDDLE EAST PEACE MOVE WITH U.S. PRESIDENT-ELECT RONALD REAGAN, THE SOURCES SAID.

REPORTS FROM AMMAN SAID TUESDAY NIGHT HUSSEIN HAD ACCEDED TO THE SYRIAN DEMANDS. BUT ABO OKEH TOLD THE ASSOCIATED PRESS IN AMMAN WEDNESDAY: "SYRIA HAS SUBMITTED NO CONDITIONS AND THE KING HAS ACCEPTED NONE."

THE ASSAD GOVERNMENT HOLDS THE FUNDAMENTALIST MOSLEM BROTHERHOOD RESPONSIBLE FOR AN 18-MONTH CAMPAIGN OF BOMBINGS AND POLITICAL ASSASSINATIONS THAT CLAIMED MORE THAN 200 LIVES IN SYRIA, INCLUDING THREE SOVIET ADVISERS.

SOURCES HERE SAY A MAJOR OBJECTIVE OF A SYRIAN MILITARY THRUST WOULD BE THE CLOSURE OF ALLEGED BROTHERHOOD TRAINING CAMPS ALONG WITH INFILTRATION ROUTES IN JORDANS NORTHERN PROVINCE OF IRBID.

(END)

03DEC80

N549

R 07 04 16

JORDAN NITER

BY ALEX EFTY

Jordan - Syria

AMMAN, JORDAN (AP)--A HIGH-RANKING JORDANIAN OFFICIAL ON WEDNESDAY SAID SOME SYRIAN TROOPS HAD PULLED BACK FROM THE BORDER WITH JORDAN BUT DENIED THAT KING HUSSEIN HAD AGREED TO SYRIAN CONDITIONS TO DEFUSE THE CRISIS.

PRINCE ABDULLAH BIN ABDEL AZIZ, SAUDI ARABIAS DEPUTY PREMIER, MEANWHILE, COMPLETED HIS FIRST ROUND OF TALKS HERE AND FLEW TO DAMASCUS.

JORDANS INFORMATION MINISTER DENIED EARLIER REPORTS KING HUSSEIN HAD ACCEPTED TWO MAIN SYRIAN DEMANDS RELAYED TO HIM OVERNIGHT BY THE SAUDI MEDIATOR.

THE MINISTER, ADNAN ABU AUDEH, TOLD THE ASSOCIATED PRESS: "SYRIA HAS SUBMITTED NO CONDITIONS AND THE KING HAS ACCEPTED NONE."

JORDANIAN OFFICIALS, WHO DID NOT WISH TO BE IDENTIFIED , HAD REPORTED AN EASING OF THE CRISIS TUESDAY NIGHT. THEY SAID THIS FOLLOWED ACCEPTANCE OF SYRIAN PROPOSALS FOR THE ENDING OF THE CRISIS BY KING HUSSEIN AND A SIMULTANEOUS INITIAL SYRIAN TROOP WITHDRAWAL FROM THE TENSE BORDER REGION.

ABU AUDEH CONFIRMED THE SYRIAN WITHDRAWAL, THOUGH HE SAID THIS INVOLVED ONLY SOME TROOPS THAT HAD RETURNED TO A PREMANENT MILITARY BASE AT DERA, FIVE MILES NORTH OF THE BORDER.

PRESS REPORTS CLAIM SYRIA HAS MASSED 60,000 TROOPS AND 1,200 TANKS ALONG THE BORDER WHILE THREE FULL JORDANIAN DIVISIONS, ABOUT 30,000 SOLDIERS, HAVE ALSO MOVED UP.

(MORE)

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N550
R 07 04 16
AMMAN -- JORDAN NITER -- 2
PRINCE ABDULLAH, WHO CONFERRED WITH SYRIAN PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD IN DAMASCUS SUNDAY AND MONDAY, MET KING HUSSEIN TUESDAY. HE LEFT HERE WEDNESDAY AND FLEW TO DAMASCUS FOR A SECOND ROUND OF TALKS WITH ASSAD.

ABU AUDEH DECLINED TO REVEAL DETAILS OF THE TALKS BETWEEN PRINCE ABDULLAH AND KING HUSSEIN. HE SAID ONLY THAT THE PRINCE AD CONVEYED A LETTER FROM KING KHALED OF SAUDI ARABIA AND THAT THE JORDANIAN MONARCH GAVE HIM A LETTER IN REPLY.

FOREIGN DIPLOMATS SAY THEY BELIEVE THE SYRIAN TERMS WERE CONSIDERED DURING THE MEETING AND THAT THE KINGS LETTER TO KING KHALED TOUCHES UPON THESE, EVEN THOUGH THE JORDANIAN INFORMATION MINISTER SAYS NO TERMS WERE FORMALLY RELAYED TO HUSSEIN.

DIPLOMATS AND POLITICAL OBSERVERS BELIEVE A SETTLEMENT OF THE CRISIS HINGES ON A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE FORMULATION OF ITS TERMS AND THE WORDS USED. "IT IS A QUESTION OF SEMANTICS," ONE DIPLOMAT SAID.

THE JORDANIAN AUTHORITIES ADAMANTLY DENIED THE TUESDAY NIGHT REPORT THAT KING HUSSEIN HAD ACCEPTED THE TWO MAIN SYRIAN TERMS.
(MORE)

03DEC80

N551
R 07 04 16
AMMAN -- JORDAN [illegible] ITER -- 3
THESE WERE REPORTED TO BE:
1- A WRITTEN UNDERTAKING BY JORDAN THAT IT WAS NOT RENDERING ANY ASSISTANCE TO THE MOSLEM BROTHERHOOD, A FANATICAL FUNDAMENTALIST GROUP ENGAGED IN ANTI-GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES IN SYRIA.
2- AN ACCEPTANCE BY JORDAN IT WILL CONTINUE TO RECOGNIZE THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION AS THE SOLE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE.
ABU AUDEH EXPLAINED THAT ACCEPTANCE OF SUCH SYRIAN TERMS "WOULD SIGNIFY THAT WE ACCEPT THE SYRIAN ASSUMPTION THAT WE ARE GUILTY OF THE FALSE CHARGES LEVELLED AGAINST US."
KING HUSSEIN HAS BEEN DENYING SYRIAN CHARGES JORDAN HAS BEEN SUPPORTING THE MOSLEM BROTHERHOOD AND PROVIDING WITH TRAINING CAMPS ON JORDANIAN TERRITORY. HE ALSO REJECTS SUGGESTIONS HE INTENDS TO USURP THE PLOS ROLE.
ABU AUDEH SAID THE TWO SYRIAN TERMS HE OBJECTED TO BECAME KNOWN TO JORDAN THROUGH THEIR PUBLICATION IN OFFICIAL SYRIAN NEWS MEDIA.
"ACCEPTANCE OF THESE SYRIAN TERMS IS LIKE THE STORY OF THE BRIDEGROOM WHO ASKED HIS BRIDE AT THE ALTAR JUST BEFORE THE WEDDING TO SIGN A PLEDGE SHE WOULD STOP BEING UNFAITHFUL," ABU AUDEH SAID.
(END)

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N527

R 07 16 71

BORDER-MOTIVES (WITH SYRIA-JORDAN)

AN AP NEWS ANALYSIS

BY STEVE K. HINDY

BEIRUT, LEBANON (AP)--SYRIAS BORDER CRISIS WPTH JORDAN APPEARS TO BE AN EFFORT TO INSURE EVZNTUAL SYRIAN-SOVIET PARTICIPATION IN MIDDLE EAST PEACE TALKS AND FORGE NEW LINKS WITH THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN.

DIPLOMATIC SOURCES SAY SYRIAN PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD, WHO HAS BROUGHT 10 YEARS OF STABILITY TO SYRIA, WOULD NOT HAVE RISKED SENDING 50,000 TROOPS AND 1,200 TANKS TO THE FRONTIER WITHOUT DEFINITE GOALS IN MIND.

PRO-SYRIAN NEWSPAPERS HERE SAY ONE DEMAND ASSAD HAS CONVEYED TO SAUDI MEDITATOR PRINCE ABDULLAH IS THAT JORDANS KING HUSSEIN DISAVOW ANY INTENT TO SPEAK FOR THE PALESTINIANS IN MIDDLE EAST PEACE TALKS.

ASSAD IS KNOWN TO FEAR A MOVE BY HUSSEIN, WHO PLANS AN EARLY MEETING WITH U.S. PRESIDENT-ELECT RONALD REAGAN, TO JOIN THE UNITED STATES IN FASHIONING A PEACE SETTLEMENT THAT WILL EXCLUDE SYRIA AND THE SOVIET UNION.

THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT RATIFIED ITS 20-YEAR FRIENDSHIP TREATY WITH THE SOVIET UNION IN DAMASCUS TUESDAY, AND ONE WELL-INFORMED SOURCE HERE SAID:

"THE TIMING OF THE TREATY APPEARS TO SHOW THAT SYRIA AND THE SOVIETS HAVE NOT BEEN DEALT OUT AND SHOULD BE A FACTOR IN ANY MIDEAST NEGOTIATIONS."

(MORE/HINDY/TATRO)

2 DEC 80

N529

R 07 16 71

BEIRUT -- BORDER -MOTIVES 2

AT THE TREATY CEREMONY IN DAMASCUS, SOVIET VICE PREMIER VASILY KUZNETZOV WENT OUT OF HIS WAY TO EUNUNCIATE A "MODERATE" POSITION ON THE MIDDLE EAST, INDICATING THE SOVIETS WOULD NOT USE ITS ROLE IN PEACE TALKS TO BROW-BEAT THE UNITED STATES.

"WE ARE DOING ALL WE CAN TO ACHIEVE A COMPREHENSIVE SETTLEMENT TO THE MIDDLE EAST CRISIS AND TO ESTABLISH JUST PEACE THAT INCLUDES ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL TO PRE-JUNE 1967 BORDERS AND GUARANTEEING THE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE IN SELF-DETERMINATION AND ESTABLISHING ITS OWN STATE, ALSO GUARANTEEING THE RIGHTS OF ALL THE STATES IN THE AREA TO PEACEFUL AND INDEPENDENT EXISTENCE," HE SAID.

APART FORM THE REFERENCE TO PALESTINIAN STATEHOOD, THAT IS A ROUGH PARAPHRASE OF U.N. RESOLUTION 242 OF 1967 -- WHICH WOULD IN EFFECT RECOGNIZE THE EXISTENCE OF THE JEWISH STATE.

YASSER ARAFATS PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION -- RECOGNIZED BY ALL ARAB STATES AS SOLE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PALESTINIANS-- WOULD BE A NECESSARY PARTNER TO ANY ARAB LEADER NEGOTIATING A MIDDLE EAST PEACE WITH ISRAEL.

AND DIPLOMATS SAY THE PLO, DEPENDENT ON 22,000 PEACEKEEPING TROOPS IN LEBANON FOR PROTECTION OF ARAFATS MAIN POWER BASE, MUST SUPPORT SYRIA IN THE CONFLICT.

(MORE/HINDY/TATRO)

N530

R 07 16 71

BEIRUT -- BORDER-MOTIVES 3 (WITH SYRIA-JORDAN)

IN THE LONG TERM, OBSERVERS HERE SEE THZ BORDER CRISIS, WHICH REPORTEDLY HAS RESULTZD IN AN IRAQI BUILD-UP ON THE SYRIAN BORDER, AS IMPROVING SYRIAN-SOVIET RELATIONS WITH IRAN.

BY CHALLENGING KING HUSSEIN, IRAQS MOST VOCAL BACKER, THE SYRIANS AUGMENT THE GOODWILL THEY HAVE ALREADY GAINED WITH IRAN FOR REPORTEDLY HELPING THEM WITH AIRLIFTED SUPPLIES.

BY SUPPORTING SYRIA, THE SOVIETS, WHO HAVE ALREADY BEEN COMMENDED BY IRANIAN OFFICIALS FOR REFUSING IRAQ MILITARY AID, GAIN ANOTHER PLUS MARK IN THE IRANIANS BOOK AND A POSSIBLE ENTREE TO THAT STRATEGIC COUNTRY.

DIPLOMATS SAY THE SYRIAN BORDER CRISIS MAY ALSO BE A SYRIAN EFFORT TO DRAW ATTENTION AWAY FROM INTERNAL UNREST THAT HAS BEEN DEMONSTRATED BY HUNDREDS OF BOMBINGS AND ASSASSINATIONS IN SYRIA IN THE PAST TWO YEARS.

ASSADS GOVERNMENT HAS REPEATEDLY ACCUSED HUSSEIN OF SUPPORTING THE FUNDAMENTALIST MOSLEM BROTHERHOOD, WHICH SYRIA HAS BLAMED FOR THE ANTI-GOVERNMENT CAMPAIGN IN SYRIA. HUSSEINS REGIME HAS REPEATEDLY DENIED THIS CHARGE.

CLEARLY WORRIED ABOUT THE SYRIAN BUILD-UP, HUSSEIN HAS URGENTLY REQUESTED MILITARY AID FROM HIS SUPERPOWER ALLY, THE UNITED STATES. BUT BY MEETING HIS REQUESTS, THE AMERICANS ALMOST CERTAINLY WOULD BE SEEN BY SYRIA AS ESCALATING THE CRISIS. IF SYRIA SOUGHT SOVIET AID UNDER THE FRIENDSHIP TREATY. A FULL -BLOWN SUPER POWER CONFRONTATION WOULD BE AT HAND.

(END/HINDY/TATRO)

2 DEC 80

N531

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SVC PRO FNE EXMISHLAWI (BEI-TIMES 1) UPCOMING 400 WORDS ON JORDAN-SYRIA TENSION INCLUDING RATIFICATION OF SYRIAN-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP TREATY. REGARDS.

MISHLAWI

N535

Q 07 04 16

DAMASCUS-- NL SYRIA-JORDAN 2

PRO-SYRIAN NEWSPAPERS IN BEIRUT SAID ASSAD LAID DOWN TWO TERMS FOR SETTLING THE DISPUTE THAT HAS BROUGHT THREE SYRIAN DIVISIONS OF 50,000 MEN AND 1,200 TANKS AND TWO ARMORED DIVISIONS FROM JORDANS CRACK BEDOUIN ARMY ON SWORDS POINT ON THEIR COMMON 300 KILOMETER (186-MILE) BORDER.

AS-SAFIR AND ASH-SHARQ SAID THE SYRIAN CONDITIONS WERE:

--ENDING JORDANS ALLEGED SUPPORT FOR THE OUTLAWED MOSLEM BROTHERHOOD, THE FUNDAMENTALIST MOVEMENT THAT HAS STAGED HUNDREDS OF BOMBINGS AND POLITICAL ASSASSINATIONS IN THE PAST 24 MONTHS IN SYRIA.

--DISAVOWAL BY JORDAN OF ANY RIGHT TO SPEAK FOR THE PALESTINIANS IN CONNECTION WITH PEACE TALKS IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

ASSAD IS KNOWN TO FEAR A BREAKAWAY MOVE BY HUSSEIN, WHO PLANS AN EARLY MEETING WITH REAGAN, TO JOIN THE UNITED STATES IN FASHIONING A PEACE SETTLEMENT THAT WILL EXCLUDE SYRIA AND THE SOVIET UNION.

SYRIAS OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER TICHRIN ACCUSED JORDAN ON TUESDAY OF SEEKING TO "STEAL THE RIGHT OF THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION TO REPRESENT THE PALESTINIANS" AND JOIN A DIALOGUE WITH THE UNITED STATES AND ISRAEL TO FIND A SUBSTITUTE FOR THE STALEMATED U.S.-SPONSORED CAMP DAVID PROCESS.

THE KUWAITI CONSERVATIVE NEWSPAPER AL-RAI AL-AAM SAID PRINCE ABDULLAH, WHO IS ALSO THE COMMANDER OF SAUDI ARABIAS NATIONAL GUARD, WOULD PROPOSE ON BEHALF OF HIS BROTHER, KING KHALED, THAT HUSSEIN AND ASSAD MEET IN RIYADH IF THE MEDIATION MISSION IS SUCCESSFUL.

MORE

2 DEC 80

UK
N542

Q 07 04 16

DAMASCUS-- NL SYRIA-JORDAN 3

THE SAUDIS, WHOSE PETRO-BILLIONS BANKROLL MUCH OF SYRIAS AND JORDANS ARMAMENT BUDGETS TO CONFRONT ISRAEL, HAVE BEEN ALARMED BY THE PROSPECT OF HAVING THEIR AID RECIPIENTS TURNING THEIR GUNS AGAINST EACH OTHER.

JORDAN ABUTS NORTHERN SAUDI ARABIA. WELL-INFORMED MIDEASTERN SOURCES SAID THE SAUDIS OFFERED KING HUSSEIN TO USE THEIR AIR BASES, FOUR OF WHICH ARE ONLY 300 MILES SOUTH OF AMMAN, TO SHELTER HIS SMALL AIR FORCE AGAINST A POSSIBLE SYRIAN ATTACK.

JORDANS 58 COMBAT AIRCRAFT, MOSTLY AMERICAN-MADE F-5 INTERCEPTERS AND GROUND ATTACK JETS, ARE NO MATCH FOR SYRIAS AIR ARMADA OF 395 SOVIET-MADE WARPLANES. JORDANS 60,000-MAN ARMY ALSO IS LESS THAN ONE THIRD OF THE SYRIAN ARMY. BUT THE JORDANIANS ARE ACKNOWLEDGED AS THE BEST TANK WARRIORS IN THE ARAB WORLD.

APPARENTLY TI DISCOURAGE A SYRIAN ATTACK, THE UNITED STATES HAS DECLARED IT CONSIDERS JORDANS SECURITY "IMPORTANT" AND SAID IT WAS CONSIDERING AN URGENT REQUEST FROM KING HUSSEIN FOR SPEEDED DELIVERIES OF 100 MILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF MILITARY SPARES AND AMMUNITION.

IT REMAINED DIFFICULT TO TELL HOW SERIOUS WAS THE THREAT OF ARMED CONFLICT BETWEEN SYRIA AND JORDAN. THE SYRIANS WERE REPORTED TO HAVE PULLED OUT MORE THAN 6,000 TROOPS FROM THEIR 22,000-MAN PEACEKEEPING ARMY IN LEBANON TO BEEF UP THE JORDAN BUILDUP.

MORE

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N543

Q 07 04 16
DAMASCUS-- NL SYRIA-JORDAN 4
THE IRAQI STATE RADIO OF BAGHDAD CLAIMED SYRIA ALSO CALLED HOME ALL SYRIAN OFFICERS IT SENT TO IRAN TO HELP IN THE WAR AGAINST IRAQ. NO FIGURES WERE MENTIONED.
THE SYRIANS, WHO SYMPATHIZE WITH AYATOLLAH RUHOLLAH KHOMEINEIS ISLAMIC REVOLUTION DENIED HAVING EVER SENT TROOPS OR ARMS TO IRAN.
END

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N553
Q 07 04 16
NL SYRIA-JORDAN
BY LOUIS FARES

DAMASCUS, SYRIA (AP)--SYRIA, A STAUNCH SOVIET ALLY, WAS RELIABELY REPORTED MONDAY TO HAVE DOUBLED ITS MILITARY BUILDUP TO 50,000 TROOPS AND 1,100 TANKS ON JORDANS NORTHERN BORDER, HEIGHTENING FEARS OF A SECOND WAR IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

INFORMED SOURCES HERE SAID THREE ARMORED DIVISIONS WERE NOW MASSED ALONG THE EAST-WEST BORDER STRETCH THAT COMMANDS THE MAIN HIGHWAY FROM SYRIA TO JORDAN. THE INITIAL BUILD-UP OF 25,000 MEN AND 600 TANKS BEGAN NOV. 22.

JORDAN, WHOSE KING HUSSEIN IS CONSIDERED AMONG THE MOST TRUSTED ARAB ALLIES OF THE UNITED STATES, VOWED TO TURN JORDAN INTO A "FLAMING INFERNO TO BURN EVERY AGGRESSOR" IF ATTACKED.

"WE SHALL NOT SHOOT FIRST," JORDANIAN PRIME MINISTER MUDAR BADRAN TOLD PARLIAMENT IN AMMAN, HUSSEINS CAPITAL. "BUT WE SHALL DEFEND OUR COUNTRY AGAINST WHATEVER ATTACK OR WHICHEVER ENEMY."

JORDAN IS REPORTED TO HAVE MOVED TWO ARMORED DEFENSIVE BORDER POSITIONS WITH SYRIA. ONLY SIX MILES (10 KM) SEPARATE THE WAR-GEARED FORCES.

(MORE)

N554

Q 07 04 16

DAMASCUS -- NL SYRIA-JORDAN 2

SAUDI ARABIAN SECOND DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER PRINCE ABDULLAH BIN ABDUL-AZIZ WOUND UP A 24-HOUR VISIT AND TALKS WITH SYRIAN PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD ON MONDAY AND FLEW HOME. HE HAD BEEN EXPECTED BY JORDANIAN OFFICIALS TO VISIT AMMAN.

SHORTLY AFTER ABDULLAHS DEPARTURE FROM DAMASCUS, SOVIET VICE PREMIER VASILY KUZNETSOV FLEW TO A RED CARPET WELCOME IN THE SYRIAN CAPITAL TO EXCHANGE RATIFICATION DOCUMENTS OF A NEW SOVIET-SYRIAN TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION.

ALTHOUGH ABDULLAHS UNEXPECTED TRIP HOME TRIGGERED SPECULATION THE SAUDI MEDIATION EFFORT HAD COLLAPSED, THE SAUDI STATE RADIO QUOTED ABDULLAH AS SAYING HE WAS OPTIMISTIC SYRIA-JORDAN TENSIONS WERE RECEDING.

THE RADIO DID NOT SAY WHY ABDULLAH FAILED TO GO DIRECTLY TO AMMAN.

"PRESIDENT ASSAD HAS RESPONDED FAVORABLY TO HIS MAJESTY KING KHALEDS PEACE INITIATIVE," ABDULLAH SAID IN A STATEMENT OVER RIYADH RADIO. "THE SYRIAN PRESIDENT HAS SHOWN EAGERNESS TO PRESERVE ARAB SOLIDARITY."

(MORE)

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N556

Q 07 04 16

DAMASCUS -- NL SYRIA-JORDAN 3

OBSERVERS IN THE SYRIAN CAPITAL SAID SAUDC ARJBCAS KING KHALED MADE "THREATS" IN A MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT ASSAD THAT APPARENTLY MADE THE MEDIATION EFFORT COUNOERPRODUCOIVD.

THE NATURE OF THE ALLEGED THREATS WERE NOT KNOWN. BUT SAUDI ARABIA IS A MAJOR CASH-BACKER OF SYRIAS CONFRONTATION WITH ISRAEL.

THE SYRIANS BLAMED THE CURRENT CRISIS ON JORDAN, CLAIMING KING HUSSEINS REGIME HAS FINANCED AND TRAINDDNGUERRILLAS OF THE OUTLAWED MOSLEM BROTHERHOOD MOVEMENT IN A CJMPAIGN OF BOMBINGS AND POLITICAL ASSASSINATIONS TONOVDRTHROW THE ASSAD GOVERNMENT.

BADRAN DEIED THW SYRIAN CHARGES ANEW IN JORDANS PARLIAMENT MONDAY, SAYING THE REAL MOTIVE FOR THE SYRIAN BUILDUP WAS JORDANS SUPPORT FOR IRAQ IN THE PERSIAN GULF WAR AGAINST IRAN.

SYRIA SYMPATHIZES WITH IRAN AGAINST IRAQ, WHICH IS GOVDRNDD BY A RIVAL FACTION OF SYRIAS RULING SOCIALIST BAATH PARTY.

U.S. PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTERS ADMINISTRATION SOUGHT TO DISCOURAGE A SYRIAN ATTACK BY DECLARING JORDAN A "FRIEND WHOSE SECURITY IS IMPORTANT TO THE UNITED STATES." ISRAEL SAID IT HAS TAKEN THE NECESSARY MEASURES TO COPE WITH WHAT EVDR HAPPENS ON ITS NORTHEASTERN FLANK.

(MORE)

01DEC80

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N557

Q 07 04 16

DAMASCUS -- NL SYRIA-JORDAN 4

SYRIA BEGAN THE BUILDUP ON NOV. 22, WHEN IT ANNOUNCED IT WAS BOYCOTTING AN ARAB SUMMIT CONFERENCE THAT WAS HELD IN AMMAN DESPITE A SYRIAN CAMPAIGN FOR POSTPONEMENT.

A WAR OF WORDS THEN FLARED BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES AND EACH REINFORCED ITS OWN BUILD-UP AS THE TENSIONS ESCALATED. THERE WERE REPORTS FROM AMMAN THAT SYRIA PULLED UP TO 10,000 TROOPS FROM ITS 22,000 -MAN PEACEKEEPING FORCE IN LEBANON.

UNCONFIRMED REPORTS SAID LEAVES WERE CANCELLED FOR SYRIAS 200,000-MAN ARMY AND THE 395 COMBAT AIRCRAFT AIR FORCE WAS PUT ON MAXIMUM ALERT.

THESE REPORTS SAID TRAVELERS FROM SOUTHERN SYRIA SAW BATTERIES OF SOVIET-MADE GROUND-TO-GROUND MISSILES BEING SET UP ON THE JORDANIAN BORDER.

(END)

01DEC80V

UK;
N568

R 07 16 71
SYRIA-JORDAN Q AND A (NY: NP ASKT FOR ROCHESTER PMS)
BY NICOLAS B. TATRO
BEIRUT, LEBANON (AP)--FOLLOWING IN A QUESTION AND ANSWER FORMAT IS AN ANALYSIS OF THE SYRIA-JORDAN DISPUTE THAT HAS BROUGHT THE TWO MIDEAST NEIGHBORS TO THE BRINK OF WAR.

Q - WHAT TRIGGERED THE DISPUTE?

A - JORDANS KING HUSSEIN HOSTED AN ARAB SUMMIT LAST WEEK AGAINST THE WISHES OF SYRIAN PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD, WHO HAD DEMANDED A POSTPONEMENT. THE CONFERENCE ENDED WITH A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF IRAQI "RIGHTS" IN THE PERSIAN GULF WAR WITH IRAN. THIS ANGERED SYRIA AND OTHER PRO-MOSCOW HARDLINERS WHO BOYCOTTED THE MEETING.

Q- HOW IS THE CONLICT CONNECTED TWITH THE IRAN-IRAQ WAR?

A - IN MANY WAYS, THE BORDER TENSION IS A SPINOFF OF THE IRAN-IRAQ FIGHTING. JORDANS KING HUSSEIN HAS OFFERED BAGHDAD MILITARY SUPPORT AND ORGANIZED A SUPPLY LINE THROUGH ITS SOUTHERN PORT OF AQABA. SYRIA HAS A LONG-SIMMERING FEUD WITH THE RIVAL BAATHIST REGIME IN BAGHDAD AND HAS REPORTEDLY GIVEN AID TO IRAN.

Q - WHAT ARE THE ROOTS OF THE DISAGREEMENT?

A - BOTH NATIONS WANT TO TAKE THE LEAD IN RESOLVING THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT AND EACH HAS THE BACKING OF A RIVAL SUPERPOWER. SYRIAN NEWSPAPERS HAVE FOCUSED ON REPORTS THAT KING HUSSEIN WAS LAYING THE GROUNDWORK FOR A GO-IT-ALONE, EGYPT-STYLE PEACE INITIATIVE WITH THE HELP OF A NEW ADMINISTRATION OF PRESIDENT-ELECT RONALD REAGAN. SYRIA WANTS THE SOVIET UNION AT THE NEGOTIATING TABLE TO REPRESENT ARAB INTERESTS.

(MORE)

01DEC80V

N569
R 07 16 71
BEIRUT -- SYRIA-JORDAN Q AND A - 2
Q - ARE THERE OTHER CAUSES?
A - SYRIA CLAIMS JORDAN AND IRAQ AIDED OUTLAWED MOSLEM BROTHERHOOD RELIGIOUS FANATICS IN A TWO-YEAR WAVE OF TERROR AGAINST ASSADDS GOVERNMENT. JORDAN REJECTS THE CHARGE AND ASSERTS SYRIA IS CAUSING A CRISIS TO COVERUP UNREST AT HOME.
Q - WHERE DOES THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION FIT IN?
A - BOTH NATIONS NEED PLO BACKING TO ACHIEVE CREDIBILITY AS THE DEFENDER OF PALESTINIAN RIGHTS. PLO CHAIRMAN YASSER ARAFAT, WHO HAS MAINTAINED STRICT NEUTRALITY IN THE IRAN-IRAQ WAR, HAS SIDED WITH SYRIA IN THE DISPUTE WITH JORDAN. BUT JORDANIAN OFFICIALS, WITH BACKING FROM OIL-RICH GULF STATES, ASSERT THE SYRIANS COERCED THE PLO TO TAKE ITS SIDE BY THREATENING TO TAKE CONTROL OF PALESTINIAN CAMPS IN LEBANON, WHERE SYRIA KEEPS 23,000 PEACEKEEPING TROOPS.
Q - WHAT THREAT DOES AN OPEN CONFLICT BETWEEN SYRIA AND JORDAN POSE?
A - A POSSIBLE SOVIET- AMERICAN CONFRONTATION. DIPLOMATS SUGGEST THAT ISRAEL MAY USE THE PRETEXT OF A WAR BETWEEN ITS TWO NEIGHBORS TO STRIKE AT SOUTHERN SYRIA FROM THE GOLAN HEIGHTS. REPORTS ALSO SUGGEST THAT IRAQ IS MOVING TROOPS TO ITS BORDER WITH SYRIA AND WOULD BE DUTY-BOUND TO TAKE JORDANS SIDE.
SYRIA, WHICH IS TO EXCHANGE RATIFIED COPIES OF A 20-YEAR FREIDNSHIP PACT WITH THE SOVIET UNION TUESDAY IN DAMASCUS, MAY CALL ON MOSCOW TO HONOR THE TREATY CLAUSE TO PROTECT SYRIA FROM OUTSIDE AGGRESSION. JORDAN HAS ALREADY SOUGHT ADDITIONAL ARMS AID FROM WASHINGTON.
(MORE)

01DEC80

N571
R 07 16 71
BEIRUT -- SYRIA-JORDAN - 3
Q - IS A WAR LIKELY?
A - DIPLOMATS SAY THERE IS A 50-50 CHANCE OF FIGHTING BECAUSE ASSAD HAS GONE SO FAR, DEPLOYING 50,000 TROOPS AND 1,200 TANKS ALONG THE 300-KILOMETER (186-MILE) BORDER. JORDAN HAS SENT HUNDREDS OF TANKS, TWO DIVISIONS OF SOLDIERS (ABOUT 20,000 TROOPS) AND IS MOBILIZING 30,000 RESERVISTS. THE TWO ARMIES STAND ONLY 10 KILOMETERS APART (SIX MILES) AND ARE CONCENTRATED NEAR THE SOUTHERN SYRIAN TOWN OF DERAA AND THE NORTHERN JORDANIAN TOWN OF RAMTHA.
Q - HAVE THE TWO COUNTRIES FOUGHT BEFORE?
A - YES, IN SEPTEMBER 1970 SYRIA SENT AN ARMORED COLUMN INTO JORDAN TO AID PALESTINIAN GUERRILLAS WHO WERE THE TARGET OF A CRACKDOWN BY KING HUSSEINS BEDOUIN ARMY. UNDER PRESSURE FROM THE SOVIET UNION AND THE UNITED STATES, THEN-DEFENSE MINISTER ASSAD DID NOT SEND AIR COVER FOR THE COLUMN AND JORDANS WELL DISCIPLINED ARMY FORCED SYRIAS TANKS TO RETREAT BACK TO THE BORDER.
(END)

N572
R 01 02 04 06 07 08 13 31 27 16
MSG& ALL POINTS
BEIRUT DOWNCLOSING TILL 0500 GMT TUESDAY. URGENTS TO DORIAN 801991 OR HINDY 363406.
BEIRUT

V
N523
R 07 04 16
MEDIATION (WITH AMMAN, JORDAN-SYRIA)
DAMASCUS, SYRIA (AP)--SAUDI ARABIAS SECO D DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER PRINCE ABDULLA BIN ABDUL-AZIZ HELD A THREE-HOUR CLOSED CONFERENCE WITH SYRIAN PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD HERE SUNDAY IN A SAUDI ATTEMPT TO HEAD OFF A WAR BETWEEN SYRIA AND JORDAN.
BOTH ARAB NATIONS MASSED THOUSANDS OF TROOPS AND HUNDREDS OF TANKS ALONG THEIR TENSE COMMON BORDER, SPARKING FEARS OF A NEW ARMED CONFLICT IN THE CRISIS-RIDDEN MIDDLE EAST.
SYRIAN GOVERNMENT SPOKESMEN DECLINED TO REPORT ON THE OUTCOME OF PRINCE ABDULLAS TALKS WITH ASSAD. BUT THEY SAID THE PRINCE, WHO ALSO IS THE COMMANDER OS SAUDI ARABIAS NATIONAL GUARD CORPS, HAS DECIDED TO PROLONG HIS STAY ANOTHER DAY IN DAMASCUS FOR FURTHER TALKS WITH THE SYRIAN PRESIDENT ON THE TENSIONS WITH JORDAN.
THE STATE SAUDI RADIO SAID ABDULLA CARRIED MESSAGES FROM KING KHALED TO ASSAD AND JORDANS KING HUSSEIN, URGING BOTH ARAB LEADERS TO EXERCISE RESTRAINT AND SEEK A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT OF THEIR DISPUTES.
(MORE)

30NOV8:V

N524

R 07 04 16

DAMASCUS -- MEDIATION 2

ABDULLA IS DUE TO LEAVE TO AMMAN FOR TALKS WITH KING HUSSEIN ON MONDAY.

SYRIA CLAIMS JORDAN IS TRAINING AND FINANCING GUERRILLAS FROM THE OUTLAWED MOSLEM BROTHERHOOD, THE FUNDAMENTALIST MOVEMENT THAT SYRIA HOLDS RESPONSIBLE FOR A 16-MONTYH CAMPAIGN OF BOMBINGS AND POLITICAL ASSASSINATIONS WHICH CLAIMED MORE THAN 200LIVES IN SYRIA. JORDAN DENIED THE SYRIAN CHARGES.

THE UNITED STATES SOUGHT TO DISCOURAGE A SYRIAN ATTACK ON JORDAN, DECLARING THAT JORDAN WAS "A FRIEND WHOSE SECURITY IS IMPORTANT TO THE UNITED STATES."

"WE WONDER WHY DIDNT THE UNITED STATES FEEL RESPONSIBLE FOR JORDANS SECURITY IN JUNE, 1967, WHEN ISRAEL GRABBED EAST JERUSALEM AND THE ENTIRE WEST BANK FROM JORDAN," IN THE SIX-DAY MIDDLE EAST WAR, RETORTED A SYRIAN GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN.

(END)

30NOV80V

N552

Q 07 04 16

Syria - Jordan

SYRIA BUILD-UP (WITH AMMAN ARAB SUMMIT)

BEIRUT, LEBANON (AP)--SYRIA HAS MOVED ITS FIRST ARMORED DIVISION, ABOUT 12,000 TROOPS, TO AN AREA NORTH OF THE SYRIA-JORDAN BORDER, ACCORDING TO WESTERN DIPLOMATIC REPORTS REACHING BEIRUT FROM DAMASCUS.

THESE SOURCES SAID THE DIVISION WAS SEEN MOVING FROM THE SYRIAN CAPITAL SOUTH TOWARD DERA , JUST NORTH OF THE BORDER, LAST SATURDAY. THERE WAS NO OFFICIAL COMMENT FROM DAMASCUS.

WELL-INFORMED SOURCES IN AMMAN, JORDAN, HAVE SAID JORDAN RESPONDED TO THE SYRIA DISPLAY OF TROOPS BY SENDING ITS OWN SOLDIERS TO THE BORDER AREA.

THE TROOPS WERE DISPATCHED TO THE FRONTIER ON THE DAY SYRIAN OFFICIALS ANNOUNCED PRESIDENT HAFEZ ASSAD WOULD BE BOYCOTTING THE CURRENT ARAB SUMMIT IN AMMAN. LIBYA, ALGERIA, SOUTH YEMEN, LEBANON AND THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION HAVE JOINED THE BOYCOTT.

(MORE)(HINDY)

26NOV80

N553

Q 07 04 16

BEIRUT -- SYRIA [redacted]LD-UP 2

THE OFFICIAL MEDIA IN SYRIA HAVE BEEN VERBALLY ATTACKING THE AMMAN MEETING SINCE IT OPENED WITH PRE-SUMMIT FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETINGS LAST WEEK.

SPEAKING OF THE 15 ASSEMBLED HEADS-OF-STATE IN AMMAN, THE GOVERNMENT NEWSPAPER AL-THAWRA (THE REVOLUTION) SAID:

"THEY ARE NOW PLOTTING TO HAVE (JORDANS KING) HUSSEIN, THE TRAITOR KING, DUST OFF HIS OLD 1972 UNITED KINGDOM PROJECT, AND SEEK AN ARAB UMBRELLA FOR HIS TREASON, TO DO WITH (U.S. PRESIDENT-ELECT RONALD) REAGAN WHAT SADAT HAS DONE WITH (U.S. PRESIDENT JIMMY) CARTER. THAT IS SELLING OUT THE PALESTINIAN CAUSE AND ITS LEGITIMATE REPRESENTATIVE, THE PLO."

IN 1972, KING HUSSEIN PROPOSED THAT IN THE EVENT OF AN ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM THE WEST BANK OF THE JORDAN RIVER, JORDAN AND THE WEST BANK BE CONFEDERATED PROVINCES UNDER A UNITED ARAB KINGDOM, WITH HUSSEIN AS KING.

THE PLO REJECTED THE PROPOSAL.

(END) (HINDY)

26NOV80 V